

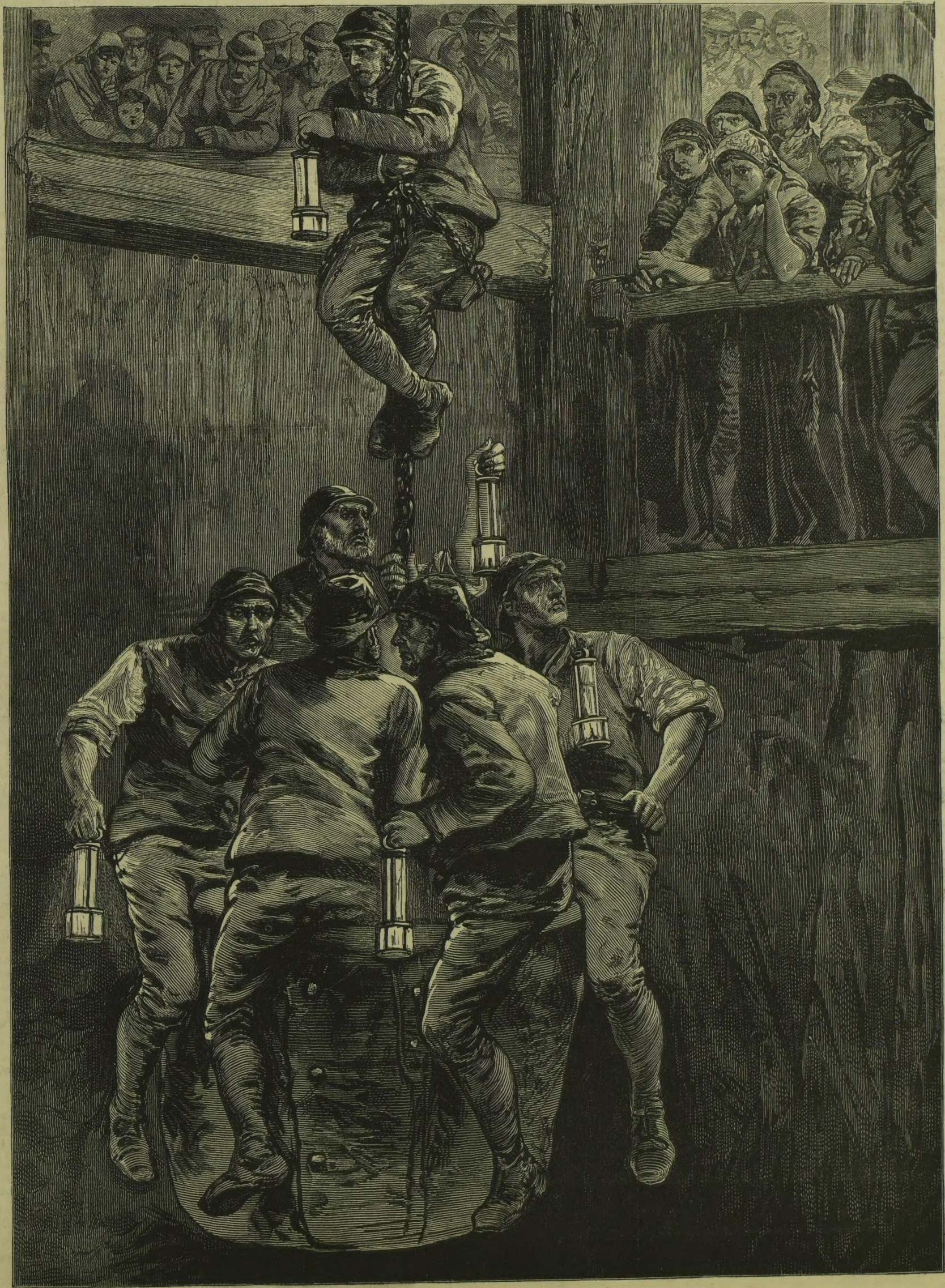
THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS

REGISTERED AT THE GENERAL POST OFFICE FOR TRANSMISSION ABROAD.

No. 2155.—VOL. LXXVII.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1880.

WITH } SIXPENCE.
TWO SUPPLEMENTS } By Post, 6^d.



THE COLLIERY DISASTER AT SEAHAM: EXPLORERS DESCENDING THE PIT TO RESCUE THE MEN BELOW.—SEE PAGE 295.

BIRTHS.

On the 7th inst., the wife of Thomas Taylor Fountaine, Esq., of 17, Rue Drouot, Paris, of a daughter.

On the 15th inst., at Guitton House, New Barnet, Herts, Mrs. Thomas McCarnie, of a son.

On the 8th inst., at Herbert House, Belgrave-square, Lady Beatrix Herbert, of a son.

On the 12th inst., at 37, Upper Grosvenor-street, the Hon. Mrs. Chichester, of a son.

On the 13th ult., at Mussoorie, Himalayas, India, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel Arthur Allen Owen, 88th Regiment (the Connaught Rangers), of a daughter.

On the 15th ult., at Ranikhet, India, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel J. Pennock Campbell, 30th Regiment, of a daughter.

MARRIAGES.

On March 9, at the residence of the bride's father, by the Rev. A. D. Acocks, Edmund Willan, to Katie Lakeman, eldest daughter of William Love, Egan Creek station, New South Wales.

On the 7th inst., at Hazlewood Church, Derbyshire, Frederick Channer, eldest son of the Rev. Frederick Corfield, J.P., to Agnes Rebecca Augusta, eldest daughter of Sir John G. N. Alleyne, of Chevin House, Bart.; and, at the same time and place, William de Burgh, eldest son of William Jessop, Esq., J.P., of Butterley Hall, Derby, to Judith, second daughter of Sir John Gay Newton Alleyne, Bart.

DEATHS.

On the 9th inst., at Ostend, after a long illness, William Arundell Yeo Esq., of Fremington House and Brynsworthy, North Devon, and Dinham House, Cornwall.

On the 7th inst., at 6, Limes Grove, Lewisham, S.E., Elizabeth, wife of Mr. Francis Saunders, aged 44.

On the 9th inst., at Ryde, Isle of Wight, suddenly, of inflammation of the lungs, Colonel Sir John Stewart-Wood, K.C.B., aged 67 years.

* * The charge for the insertion of Births, Marriages, or Deaths is Five Shillings for each announcement.

CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPT. 25.

SUNDAY, SEPT. 19.	
Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity.	Prebendary Reynolds; 3.15 p.m.;
Morning Lessons: Jer. v., 2 Cor. xi.	Rev. Canon Stubbs; 7 p.m., Ven.
1-30. Evening Lessons: Jer. xxii.	W. Emery, Archdeacon of Ely.
or xxxv., Mark xiv., 53.	Savoy, 11.30 a.m., Rev. Henry White,
Westminster Abbey, 10 a.m. and	the Chaplain; 7 p.m., Rev. H.
3 p.m.	Compton Dickens, Vicar of St.
St. Paul's Cathedral, 10.30 a.m., Rev.	John's, Winchester.
MONDAY, SEPT. 20.	
Battle of the Alma: Defeat of the Russians by the British and French, 1854.	Exmouth Athletic Sports.
TUESDAY, SEPT. 21.	
St. Matthew, Apostle, Evangelist, and Martyr.	Sanitary Institute of Great Britain; opening of congress and exhibition at Exeter; 3 p.m., luncheon at the Guildhall; 8 p.m., general meeting; address by president, Earl Fortescue.
The Duke of Cumberland born, 1845.	Humane Society, 4 p.m.
Society of Engineers, visit to Chatham Dockyard; Ludgate-hill Station, 10.48 a.m.; dinner, Guildhall Tavern, 6.30 p.m.	Races: Lichfield and Ayr.
WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 22.	
Abdul-Hamid, Sultan of Turkey, born 1842.	Sanitary Institute at Exeter: morning, second general meeting, (address by Dr. De Chaumont); evening, conversation at the Bishop's Palace.
East of England Horse Show, Halesworth (two days).	Brotherton Dog Show.
Staffordshire Agricultural Show, Stoke-on-Trent (two days).	
THURSDAY, SEPT. 23.	
Sanitary Institute at Exeter: morning, third general meeting (address by Mr. Robert Rawlinson); evening, lecture by Dr. B. W. Richardson.	Altrincham Dog Show.
FRIDAY, SEPT. 24.	
Equal day and night.	evening, closing meeting and public dinner.
Sanitary Institute at Exeter: morning, fourth general meeting (address by Sir Antonio Brady);	Pocklington Horse Show.
SATURDAY, SEPT. 25.	
Sanitary Institute at Exeter: excursions.	Regattas: Thames and London Rowing Clubs.

THE WEATHER.

RESULTS OF METEOROLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS AT THE KEW OBSERVATORY OF THE ROYAL SOCIETY.

Lat. 51° 28' 6" N.; Long. 0° 18' 47" W. Height above Sea, 34 feet.

DAY.	DAILY MEANS OF				THERMOM.		WIND.		General Direction.	Movement in 24 hours, next morning.	Rain in 24 hours, read at 10 a.m. next morning.
	Barometer Corrected.	Temperature of the Air.	Dew Point.	Relative Humidity.	Amount of Cloud.	Maximum, read at 10 p.m.	Minimum, read at 10 a.m.	Miles.	In.		
Sept.	5 30.047	67.7	56.3	68	6	73.5	64.5	SW.	324	0.000	
	6 30.063	61.9	52.4	72	8	71.7	58.5	W. SW.	89	0.125	
	7 30.025	59.1	46.3	65	4	70.7	53.1	NW. N.W. N.W.	114	0.000	
	8 29.964	59.0	51.6	78	9	67.8	48.8	N.W. N. E.	233	0.005	
	9 29.820	59.9	53.6	81	7	66.1	56.2	E.N.E. E.	230	0.000	
	10 29.697	64.6	55.1	73	7	78.6	55.0	E. S.E. S.	248	0.000	
	11 29.624	58.9	56.6	92	10	67.4	54.5	S. N.W. N.	252	1.440	

The following are the readings of the meteorological instruments for the above days, in order, at ten o'clock a.m.:-

Barometer (in inches) corrected .. 30.048 30.033 30.011 30.015 29.951 29.718 29.662

Temperature of Air 67.7 61.9 59.1 59.0 59.9 64.6 67.7

Temperature of Evaporation 63.9 57.9 55.1 57.1 58.5 63.2 62.0

Direction of Wind SW. W. N.W. E.N.E. E. S.E.

TIMES OF HIGH WATER AT LONDON BRIDGE FOR THE WEEK ENDING SEPT. 25.

Sunday.	Monday.	Tuesday.	Wednesday.	Thursday.	Friday.	Saturday.
h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m	h m
1 12 20	2 37 2	3 55 3	5 13 3	6 31 4	7 49 5	9 07 6

LYCEUM.—Sole Lessee and Manager, Mr. Henry Irving.

This and Every Evening, at 8.30, will be presented the Legendary Drama of THE CORSIKIAN BROTHERS—Louis and Fabien de Franchi, Mr. Irving. Preceded, at 7.30, by a New and Original Comedy, entitled BY GONES. Box Office (Mr. Hurst) open Ten to Five, where seats can be booked either by letter or telegram.

HER MAJESTY'S THEATRE.—Seventh Week.—Electric

Success Every Evening. Matinée WEDNESDAY and SATURDAY, at Three. Extraordinary and unprecedented Ovation. Each feature a sensation. The audience fairly boiling over with enthusiasm. HAVELY'S AMERICAN UNITED MASQUED MINSTRELS. Forty Famous Performers. All the great features, new and novel. First Time. HAVELY'S WONDERFUL CIRCUS.

THEATRE ROYAL, COVENT-GARDEN, PROMENADE

CONCERTS, under the direction of Messrs. A. and S. GATTI. Every evening. Doors open 7.30, commence at 8.0. Conductor, Mr. Frederick H. Cowen, assisted by Mr. A. Burnet. Orchestra of One Hundred performers. Band of the Coldstream Guards. Private Boxes, 10s. 6d. to 4s. 4s.; Dress Circle, 2s. 6d.; Stalls, 2s.; Promenade, 1s. Box-Office open Ten to Five daily.

LEEDS MUSICAL FESTIVAL, OCT. 13, 14, 15, and 16, 1880.—Conductor, Mr. ARTHUR SULLIVAN. DETAILED PROGRAMMES may now be had, personally or by letter, on application to Festival Offices, Great George-street, Leeds. FRED. R. SPARK, Hon. Sec.

S. T. JAMES'S HALL, PICCADILLY.

EVERY NIGHT AT EIGHT; MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS, and SATURDAYS, at Three and Eight, ALL THE YEAR ROUND.

MOORE and BURGESS MINSTRELS, the oldest established and most successful Entertainment in the world, and THE ACKNOWLEDGED SUPREME HEAD OF ALL CONTEMPORARY MINSTREL COMPANIES on either side of the Atlantic, comprising, "as it has done for more than fifteen years past," FORTY ARTISTES OF KNOWN EMINENCE.

DORÉ'S GREAT WORKS.—"ECCE HOMO" ("Full of divine dignity."—The Times) and "THE ASCENSION." "CHRIST LEAVING THE PRETORIUM." "CHRIST ENTERING JERUSALEM," with all his other Great Pictures.—DORÉ GALLERY, 35, New Bond-street. Daily, 10 to 6. 1s.

PROFESSOR TENNANT'S LECTURES on MINERALOGY, applied to GEOLOGY and the ARTS, at King's College. Two Courses are given, one on Saturday Mornings from 10.30 to 11.30, and the other on Thursday Evenings from Eight to Nine. The public are admitted on paying the College fees. The Lectures begin SATURDAY, OCT. 9, and terminate at Easter. They are illustrated by a large series of specimens, chiefly from his private collection. Persons unable to attend Public Lectures can have Private Instruction in Mineralogy and Geology of Professor Tennant at his residence, 139, Strand, W.C. Terms, 7s. for Lesson of one hour.

BRIGHTON EVERY SUNDAY.—A Cheap First Class Train from Victoria 10.45 a.m., calling at Clapham Junction and Croydon; from London Bridge 10.35 a.m., calling at Croydon. Day Return Tickets, 10s.

BRIGHTON.—PULLMAN DRAWING-ROOM CAR

TRAINS leave Victoria for Brighton every Weekday at 10.0 a.m. and 4.30 p.m., and from Brighton at 9.45 a.m. and 5.45 p.m.; and on Sundays from Victoria 10.45 a.m., and from Brighton 8.30 p.m.

THE GRAND AQUARIUM AT BRIGHTON.—EVERY SATURDAY, Cheap Fast Trains from Victoria at 10.55 and 11.50 a.m., and London Bridge at 9.30 a.m. and 12.0 noon.

Day Return Fare—First Class, Half-a-Guinea, including Admission to the Aquarium and the Royal Pavilion.

PARIS.—SHORTEST, CHEAPEST ROUTE.—Via DAY SERVICE.—NEWHAVEN, DIEPPE, and ROUEN. NIGHT SERVICE.—Leaving Victoria 7.50 p.m., and London Bridge 8.0 p.m. every Weekday.

FARES.—London to Paris and Back First Class. Second Class. Available for Return within One Month .. 22 15 0 .. 19 0

Third-Class Return Tickets (by the Night Service), 30s.

A Through Conductor will accompany the Passengers by the Special Day Service throughout to Paris, and vice versa.

Powerful Paddle-steamers, with excellent cabins, &c. Trains run alongside steamers at Newhaven and Dieppe.

HAVRE.—Passengers booked through by this route every weekday from Victoria and London Bridge as above.

HONFLEUR, TROUVILLE, CAEN, &c.—Passengers booked through from Victoria and London Bridge, via Littlehampton, every Monday and Wednesday.

SOUTH OF FRANCE, ITALY, SWITZERLAND, &c.—Passengers are now booked through from London to Italy, Switzerland, and the South of France, by this route.

TICKETS and every information at the Brighton Company's West-End General Office, 28, Regent-circus, Piccadilly; and at the Victoria and London Bridge Stations. J. P. KNIGHT, General Manager.

GREAT EASTERN RAILWAY.—SEASIDE.

TWO MONTHS, FORTNIGHTLY, and CHEAP SATURDAY to MONDAY RETURN TICKETS are now issued to YARMOUTH, Lowestoft, Cromer, Southwold, Aldeburgh, Felixstowe, Harwich, Dovercourt, Walton-on-the-Naze, and Hunstanton. For full particulars see Hand-bills and Time-books. London, September, 1880. WILLIAM BIRT, Acting General Manager.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.

LONDON: SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 1880.

Are we to annex Candahar, to occupy it for an indefinite period, or to withdraw from it as soon as practicable the forces by which it is now held? Such are the political questions which now appeal to the British mind. The decisive and splendid victories of General Roberts and the flight of Ayoub Khan, with a small remnant of his followers, towards Herat, have suggested for early solution this old problem, now presented under a new aspect. Is it wiser, having regard to the interests and wants of our Indian Empire, to extend its Frontier so as to include within them a considerable portion of Southern Afghanistan, or to shake ourselves clear of all entanglements in the country alluded to, and retire within the territory that used to be regarded as safe from all probable invasion? Of course, there are two sides to the question offering itself for consideration, and it would be puerile to deny that high authorities and powerful influences are brought to bear on each of them, with a view to the ultimate disposal of the matter. The facts, as they stand, leave us at liberty to do what, on the whole, we may regard as best fitted to promote the stability and prosperity of our Indian Empire. Our reputation in the East is as safe as it is ever likely to be. For aught that appears, we have made no engagements which would prevent our adopting whatever policy may best commend itself to our judgment. Our hands are free, or may easily be made so; and there is no imperative necessity to coerce us to a decision, either on this side or on that. But there cannot be a doubt that any decision must be a critical one, drawing after it very important consequences, and entailing responsibilities both upon the Government at home and upon that of India, the entire breadth of which it would, perhaps, be impossible to measure.

Let us try and estimate the force of the arguments presented on each side of the case. By those who demur to the annexation of Candahar to the Indian Empire, such considerations as the following have been strongly urged:—What right have we at Candahar? What justification, except that of superior might, can the Indian Government plead before the world to possess itself of the territory which it is asked to annex? Have the people of that district signified their wish that we should govern them? Is there any special aptitude in the benevolent despotism of India to conciliate the goodwill of Afghan Tribes? Has any considerable party made overtures in this direction? or is the convenience (assuming it to be such) of the Government of India to be deliberately set down as identical with the demands of justice or the existence of international right? That is the first query to be answered. The next is, supposing it to be right, is it expedient in the interests of either Afghanistan or India? In some respects, no doubt, the first might profit by an affirmative decision. Life and property might, after a while, become more secure. Trade might flow more abundantly, to and fro, in well-established channels, and natural resources might be more freely developed than heretofore. But the Afghan nature is not likely to be essentially changed for generations to come, and, if history be consulted, overpowering physical might has never conspicuously succeeded in transforming national and moral defects into virtues. As to India, the possession of Candahar, and such

portion of South Afghanistan as would necessarily be held with it, would be an enormous drain upon the means of that Dependency—and what for? Candahar is said to be the gate of India. Through it Russia would have to make her way should she ever venture upon a hostile invasion. Well, upon the military elements of the question we cannot presume to speak. Judgment has been given on the one side as well as on the other, whether it is better to meet a foe in advance or to wait for him on your own ground is not to be determined upon abstract reasons, but upon the circumstances which generate, and attach themselves to, each individual case. It is the contention of those who condemn the annexation of Candahar that nothing-material can be gained by pushing the Indian frontier into the heart of Afghan territory, and that, even if it could, "the game is not worth the candle."

The truth is, that the juxtaposition of civilisation and barbarism, or even semi-barbarism, is almost invariably followed, in whatever quarter of the globe it may take place, by similar results. We have seen it exemplified in India, in South Africa, in Central Asia, and in the United States of America. There is no one to lay a sufficiently restraining hand upon a civilised Power in such circumstances, and to say to it with a prevailing voice "Thus far shalt thou go, and no farther." If British authority take possession of Candahar, it will not stay its advance at that point. No one may intend to move further forward, but events will necessitate such a movement. Now, neither India nor the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland could long afford a perpetual extension of its frontier. Each has upon its hands enough, we might almost say more than enough, to fill them; each may be described as pressing upon the outer limit of danger; each is throwing more strength than it can well spare towards the extremities of its Dominion; and increase of territory, so far from adding strength to it, rather disperses it. Our work will soon overtax our energies. This, at all events, is the peril against which we have to guard at present. The Nemesis of physical conquest is that it must repeat almost incessantly its expenditure of labour, wealth, and life, until it succumbs to mere exhaustion. The disposition of this country at present appears to be to live within the boundaries it has acquired, and not to enlarge them unless compelled to do so by a visible and almost irresistible necessity. Slowly, it may be, but surely, we cannot but think, the nation is beginning to feel the want, not of wider physical limits, but of fuller moral development. Whether it will prove itself competent to regulate its own destinies in this respect remains to be seen. If it be, it will have to attest the truth in this generation. Our hope is that it will not show itself inferior to the exigence which events have imposed upon it. Justice is assumed to be the chief aim of its policy; may justice rule its determinations in all its relations to other political communities, not excepting Afghanistan!

MR. GLADSTONE'S THANKS.

The following letter from Mr. Gladstone has been received by Mr. Cowan, Beeslack, Chairman of the Midlothian Liberal Association:—

10, Downing-street, Whitehall, Sept. 9, 1880.

My dear Mr. Cowen,—A short time ago you forwarded to me a resolution of the executive committee of the Liberal Association for Midlothian, which congratulated me on my recovery from a severe illness, and expressed a desire that I should henceforward spare myself as much as possible in the discharge of my official duties.

I made at once a brief acknowledgment of this resolution, but I am desirous, now that I have been able to resume the active and regular transaction of business, to put upon paper in a more full and regular manner my warm thankfulness for the cordial and considerate feeling thus exhibited towards me by and on behalf of those who conferred upon me the distinction of returning me to Parliament.

I have a further object in view, which this letter enables me to gain. It is that of publicly expressing my hearty gratitude to all those who—in this and other nations, in every position of life, and lastly, but not least, I am thankful to say from every section of political feeling and opinion among my countrymen—have been pleased to express a kindly sympathy in my illness and a sincere pleasure at my recovery.

If I do not dwell in greater detail upon the warmth, number, and variety of these manifestations—which, in truth, took me by surprise—it is only because I fear that my yielding to such an impulse might wear the appearance of egotism; but the recollection of such generous feeling can never be effaced, and will, I hope, both cheer and guide me in the future.

Believe me, sincerely yours, W. E. GLADSTONE.

The Premier left London yesterday week on a visit to the Earl of Rosebery at Mentmore. On Monday evening about half-past seven he arrived at Chester, accompanied by Mrs. Gladstone. Although, in compliance with the right hon. gentleman's wish, there was no organised reception, a number of persons were assembled at the station and cheered Mr. Gladstone on his alighting from the train, and subsequently attended him as he walked through the city to call on the Bishop. After leaving the Bishop's palace, Mr. Gladstone walked to Hawarden Castle, a distance of eight miles, whither Mrs. Gladstone proceeded by train.

Lady Burdett-Coutts has given a second donation of £100 to the Open-Air Mission.

Her Majesty approves, on the recommendation of the Prime Minister, of a pension of £500 a year being granted from the Civil List to Lady Stratford de Redcliffe and her unmarried daughters, with the benefit of survivorship, in consideration of the long and highly distinguished public service of the late Lord Stratford de Redcliffe.

In connection with the Irish agrarian agitation another landlord has been shot at. Mr. C. W. Stoughton, an extensive landowner in North Kerry, was sitting, with his daughter, in the drawing-room of his house, near Ballynoe, on Friday night, the 10th inst., when a pistol was fired at him through the window. The bullet smashed a wine-glass on the table.

ECHOES OF THE WEEK.

Following closely on the erection at Blois of the statue of old Dr. Denis Papin, who did invent the Digester and the safety-valve, and did not invent the steam-engine, has come the installation (it would be as well, perhaps, to allow that terribly overworked word "inauguration" to take an autumnal holiday), at Clermont-Ferrand, in the department of the Puy-de-Dôme, of a statue of the renowned mathematician and theologian Blaise Pascal, who died in 1662 in his thirty-ninth year. But for the cruel shears of the Fates, Newton, Wren, Harvey, Boyle—all the *egregissimi ed illustrissimi* of the Royal Society in its early and palmy Caroline days—might have known the wondrous geometric genius whom Bayle (in his "Critical Dictionary") calls "one of the brightest spirits this world ever produced."

Do you know Clermont-Ferrand (the *Clarus Mons* of the Romans)? It has been called "the City in Perpetual Half-Mourning," for the materials of which most of the houses are built is the grey and black stone of the Volvic; and the town itself is surrounded by an amphitheatre of dark grey mountains. *Clarus Mons*, indeed! The ancient capital of Auvergne would be more appropriately styled Montenegro.

The streets of Clermont-Ferrand, as you ascend them, are like ladders with the rungs very wide apart. Those thoroughfares which you descend are like cataracts. This topographical "up-and-downism" is picturesque, but somewhat fatiguing; and if the roofs of the houses of Clermont-Ferrand were only of tin the place would remind you strongly of that most precipitous of American cities, Quebec, where, as non-natural historians are well aware, there are two distinct breeds of cab-horses—one with their fore legs shorter than their hind legs (like kangaroos), for going up-hill; and another with hind legs shorter than their fore legs (like giraffes) for coming down hill.

Still, Clermont-Ferrand must not be spoken of with disrespect. It is, like Baltimore, in the State of Maryland, a "Monumental City," and boasts sculptured or graphic memorials of General Desaix, the hero of Marengo, of the illustrious Fléchier, Bishop of Nîmes and author of "Les Grands Jours d'Auvergne" (a kind of Special Commission of Assize dispatched from Paris in Louis XIV.'s time in order to teach the Auvergnat *grands seigneurs* that they could no longer be permitted to murder, plunder, and torture their vassals with impunity); of Jacques Delille, the translator of Virgil (who persisted in retaining in his version of the *Æneid* the four apocryphal (?) "*Ille ego qui quondam, &c.*," which Spenser has paraphrased in his prologue to the "Faerie Queene") and of the great French painter Girodet-Trioson, whose outline illustrations of Anacreon almost rival the renowned Homeric drawings of John Flaxman in beauty of composition and intensity of classic feeling.

Mem.: Among mathematicians the fame of Pascal is doubtless as bright as ever it was; and those who are not versed in exact science must continue to marvel at the precocious genius who, at twelve, was solving problems in Euclid without ever having seen "Euclid's Elements," who wrote a treatise on Conic Sections when he was sixteen, to the almost incredulous astonishment of Descartes; and who, before he was twenty-five, had carried out to demonstration the conjectures of Torricelli as to the equilibrium of liquids, and the weight of the atmosphere. Pascal's sublimely noble "Pensées" must also continue to find attentive and reverent readers both in England and on the Continent. But as to the "Provincial Letters"? Have you read those satirical exertions lately? And if you have done so, is it high treason to hint that the poignant diatribes of "Louis de Montalte" (the satirist's pseudonym) have grown rather wearisome reading. There must come a period, "Junius" warns us, when "the force and direction of personal satire shall be no longer understood." That which he said of particulars may often apply to generals. Do you care much now, about analyses of Popinion de Capitan, and bantering disquisitions upon Don Escobar's casuistry as to whether it be lawful to kill a man who has given you a box on the ear?

I have seen the second *livraison* of the sumptuous "Art de la Mode," which, from the point of view of being a "fashion book" from which milliners and dressmakers can work, pleases me no better than did the first number of this handsome but somewhat pretentious publication, the leading pictorial attraction of which for September is an immense aquatint or autotype sepia drawing by M. Détaille of a mounted standard-bearer of cuirassiers. *C'est beau; mais ce n'est pas la Mode.*

Among the really modish diagrams, however, I am glad to recognise the new fashionable ladies' long glove, polychromatically crossed-barred in curious fashion. The Americans call these fantastic things "barber-pole stocking gloves." On the other hand, I learn from the *San Francisco News Letter* that hose are being worn "in which the nerves and veins are meanderingly traced, after the manner of an anatomical drawing." Civilisation is progressing; and the inventiveness of the Caucasian is not played out, "*Qu'avez vous inventé, Gualches!*" Voltaire indignantly asked of his countrymen. Well; they have invented the "barber-pole stocking glove;" and the Americans have improved on it in the "anatomical drawing stocking." But we men-folk have no right to protest. Thirty years ago, did not the "gents" of the period (there are no "gents" now) delight in shirt fronts and cuffs embellished with the effigies of death's heads, ballet-girls, and racehorses?

What is the matter with Mr. W. Cave Thomas? Is it the recent undue prolongation of the Session, or the deplorable condition of Covent Garden Market, or the (apparently) interminable proceedings of the Portsmouth Court-Martial on the Wimbledon marking scandal, that have embittered Mr. Thomas's views of things, and incited a most distinguished painter, a profound judge, and an experienced teacher of art to write

an acid letter to the *Times* in which he denies that the existence of public museums of art is of vital importance to the development of national taste and rational art, and in which he asserts that "the establishment of museums of art is quite a modern fashion and craze." "It is a mistake," goes on Mr. Thomas in another part of his letter, which is too long to quote in its entirety, "to do much for people in the way of teaching. We do not want art museums at everybody's door. Let the public, as of old, learn in a great measure to seek their knowledge under some degree of difficulty, and there will be the more likelihood of their obtaining it and making the best use of it." By a parity of reasoning, dear Sir, the best way to educate the people would be to make Board Schools fewer in number and much more difficult of access.

I think that I had once the honour to meet Mr. W. Cave Thomas, and with much sympathetic deference (I was a raw lad at the time) listen to his wise and pregnant remarks on the lamentable want of public patronage for Art in England. It was a great many years ago; but it should have been only twenty; and I ought to have met Mr. Thomas on the Catskill Mountains, where he was playing ten pins with Hendrik Hudson and his demon crew and quaffing whisky from a magic keg: the liquor being largely diluted with Batley's solution of opium. And now, seemingly, Mr. Thomas has just woke up, and as a Sleeper Awakened scatters broadcast denunciations on the Art Museums, which I hope to see increase and multiply by tenfold ere I go.

Nevertheless, I thoroughly agree with the writer of the acid letter in the *Times* when he says that municipalities would do well to call in living painters and sculptors to decorate monumental public buildings. Mr. J. C. Horsley said something to the same effect some time ago; and his appeal was especially addressed to the great City Companies. Our Railway Companies might well take a hint in the same direction. You happy ones (or have-been happy ones) who are returning from your autumnal outings in Italy and Switzerland, tell me, have you not gazed with admiration, mingled perhaps with a little shame, at the magnificent fresco paintings with which the Lombardo-Venetian Railway Company have decorated the waiting-rooms of their station at Milan? What has been done at the new railway terminus at Rome is unknown to me. I have not visited the Eternal City since I entered it through the Porta Pia in the wake of the Italian army in 1870. Our English railway termini are, architecturally, the handsomest in the world; but the decorations of their interiors are, as a rule, miserably mean and tasteless.

I usually notice that when any of my correspondents have anything spiteful or anything arrogant to say (the number of such correspondents is, I am grateful to remember, exceedingly small) they write on postcards, and anonymously. Referring to a haphazard assemblage of books for "general" reading which I lately suggested, an anonymous and postcardial person writes:—

Have you clean forgotten "Plutarch's Lives," "Butler's Analogy," and that glorious English classic, "The Poetry of the Antijacobin"? I should be sorely sorry to part with "Hallam's Literature of Europe," or Isaac Taylor's "Words and Places" from my shelves; would you not miss them likewise? I hope you will give addenda to your I.L.N. list. F. P.

I beg respectfully to state that I do not consider "Butler's Analogy" a work for "general" reading. I have also to state that I have not "clean forgotten" either "Plutarch's Lives;" or, for the matter of that, the writings (on Politeness) of Lord Chesterfield. The gentleman has evidently "clean" misunderstood the meaning of the paragraph in last week's "Echoes." I had no idea of importing the catalogue of a whole library into my columns; and I specifically mentioned only "a few books" which I kept on my shelves "close at hand." I happen to work in a room walled in on three sides and two thirds by some three thousand books, irrespective of the volumes and papers which litter the table, the chairs, and the floor; and, had I proceeded to give an inventory of all the books that I love, the general body of my readers would have risen in revolt against me; denunciations would have poured in from the Great Salt Lake Valley and indignant protests from the Straits of Malacca.

Nor (very respectfully again) do I consider the "Poetry of the Anti-Jacobin" to be "a glorious English classic." The droll, sparkling, ill-natured verses—penned by "Mr. Pitt's clever young men"—are excellent fooling; but as literary productions they are not superior to the "Rejected Addresses" (those diverting satires on the Jingoism of the period), and they are certainly inferior to the Thackeray "Policeman X" ballads in *Punch*. The Anti-Jacobin lyrics are all underlaid by a sneering contempt for the working classes and a fierce denial of popular rights. The best of the series is the "Needy Knife-Grinder," the diction of which is in parts as coarse as Peter Pindar's; and the most significant commentaries on the spirit and moral of the Needy Knife-Grinder are the existing French Republic and English Parliamentary Reform.

The dramatic critic of the *World*, speaking of the approaching revival (vide "Play Houses") of the "Corsican Brothers" at the Lyceum, asks Mr. Irving why the playbill should describe the play as a "legendary drama." "So far as I know," continues the critic, "it has no other foundation than the fiction of Alexandre Dumas the Elder." Oh! Mr. Critic. Oh! Mr. "D. C." Surely you must have heard that while the vendetta episode in Alexander the Great's romance of "*Les Frères Corses*" is Alexander's own, so far as an aspect of manners which have formed part and parcel of Corsican life from time immemorial can be called original, the real plot, the real foundation, the real pivot on which the highly "legendary" interest of this gruesome drama turns in the identity of thought, feeling, sympathy, and sensation between the twins, is based on an incident in the career of a person still living. Two years ago I had the honour to dine, at the Café Anglais, Paris, in the company of one of the *Real Corsican Brothers*, and I heard him relate, with enthralling dramatic effect, the strange chain

of events in his own life, which suggested the "*Frères Corses*" to Dumas Père. The Real Corsican Brother is a renowned member of the French Legislature, and his name is Louis Blanc.

A courteous and kindly correspondent, "A. L. E.," writing from Somerton, Somerset, tells me that he has always understood that the whimsical term "parson-cooler" was first applied to the chalice-shaped stone pulpit in the pretty little church of Charlton Mackrell (West Charlton), and that the author of the *bon mot* was no less a jester than the Rev. Sydney Smith, who ended his days in the Somersetshire incumbency of Combe Florey (pretty name!). The pulpit in question, continues my correspondent, much resembles an old-fashioned wine-cooler; but its outline is much more graceful.

Mem.: Unless I am mistaken, I first heard the expression "parson-cooler" applied to a pulpit by that distinguished archaeologist Lord Talbot de Malahide at a meeting in the Jerusalem Chamber of the Westminster Chapter-House Committee, close upon twenty years ago. Possibly, his Lordship had heard the *mot* from Sydney Smith himself.

My correspondent from Somerton incidentally glances at a few distinguished wits and humourists who were clergymen; citing, among others, Rabelais, Swift, Sterne, Sydney Smith, and Barham ("Tom Ingoldsby"). The catalogue could be widely extended. The names of Hugh Latimer, Dr. Donne, Bishop Still, Bishop Hall, South, Bishop Samuel Wilberforce, Archdeacon Paley (more of a rough humourist than a wit) the Abbé Prévost (and a whole host of Abbés), Talleyrand (he was once Bishop of Autun), Rowland Hill, Dupanloup (he said innumerable good things), Father Paul Sarpi ("*Stilo di Roma*," he murmured when he was stabbed by a Jesuit emissary), and "Father Prout" (the Rev. Francis Mahony) will at once suggest themselves without our turning to a biographical dictionary. Crabbe was a humourist, I take it, but scarcely a wit. Walcott (Peter Pindar) was a gross *farceur*—a kind of poetical Paul de Koch. Churchill was a savage wit. The wittiest clergyman in the United States is, to my mind, a certain Professor Swarg, of Chicago; and let me not forget that kind, gentle humourist, the Rev. Dr. Bellows, of New York.

From the "Junior Liberal Club, Birmingham," H. K. A. writes me that Mr. A. C. Selous's drama of "*Æsop*;" or the Golden Calf "was produced in the go-ahead Midland metropolis, under the management of the lamented Mr. Charles Calvert. "It is a well-written drama," continues H. K. A., "and well worthy to be rescued from its present ignored condition." Another correspondent, from Boston, in Lincolnshire, observes that when Mr. Selous's drama was brought out at the Prince of Wales's Theatre, Birmingham, two years ago, it was called "*Æsop*;" or the Golden Bubble."

From the Petersburg Club in the old State of Virginia, U.S.A., a valued friend, "J. D. Y.," sends me a copy of verses said to have been written by the late Tyrone Power, the Irish comedian, on the wall of Old Blandford Church, Petersburg, which was built so long ago as 1735, but is now (War, not Time, the cause) a shapeless ruin. The lines were found on the wall the day after Power's visit to the church. There are four stanzas, but I am only able to quote the first one:—

Thou art crumbling to the dust, old pile,
Thou art hastening to thy fall;
And round thee in thy loneliness
Clings the ivy to the wall.
Thy worshippers are scatter'd now,
Who knelt before thy shrine,
And silence reigns where anthems rose
In days of "Auld Lang Syne."

My correspondent wishes to know if these lines are original. I should say that they are so, seeing that Tyrone Power was possessed of considerable literary ability. I gave his book of American travels away to a friend, else I would refer to it, and see if he has anything to say about Old Blandford Church, Petersburg.

Mem.: There is an odd suggestion of the footlights on the last line of the last stanza, of which I may just quote the conclusion:—

How would our very souls be stirred
To meet the earnest gaze
Of the lovely and the beautiful,
The Light of Other Days.

The "Light of Other Days" was, as everybody knows, the exquisitely melodious ballad sung by the late Henry Phillips in Balfe's opera of the "*Maid of Artois*," produced at Drury Lane about '35 or '36. Malibran was the heroine—and what a heroine! A few years afterwards her part was charmingly sustained at the selfsame Old Drury by the still living Madam Anna Bishop. I wonder whether Tyrone Power was thinking of Henry Phillips and his "Light of Other Days" when he wrote those verses (if he did write them) on the wall of Old Blandford Church.

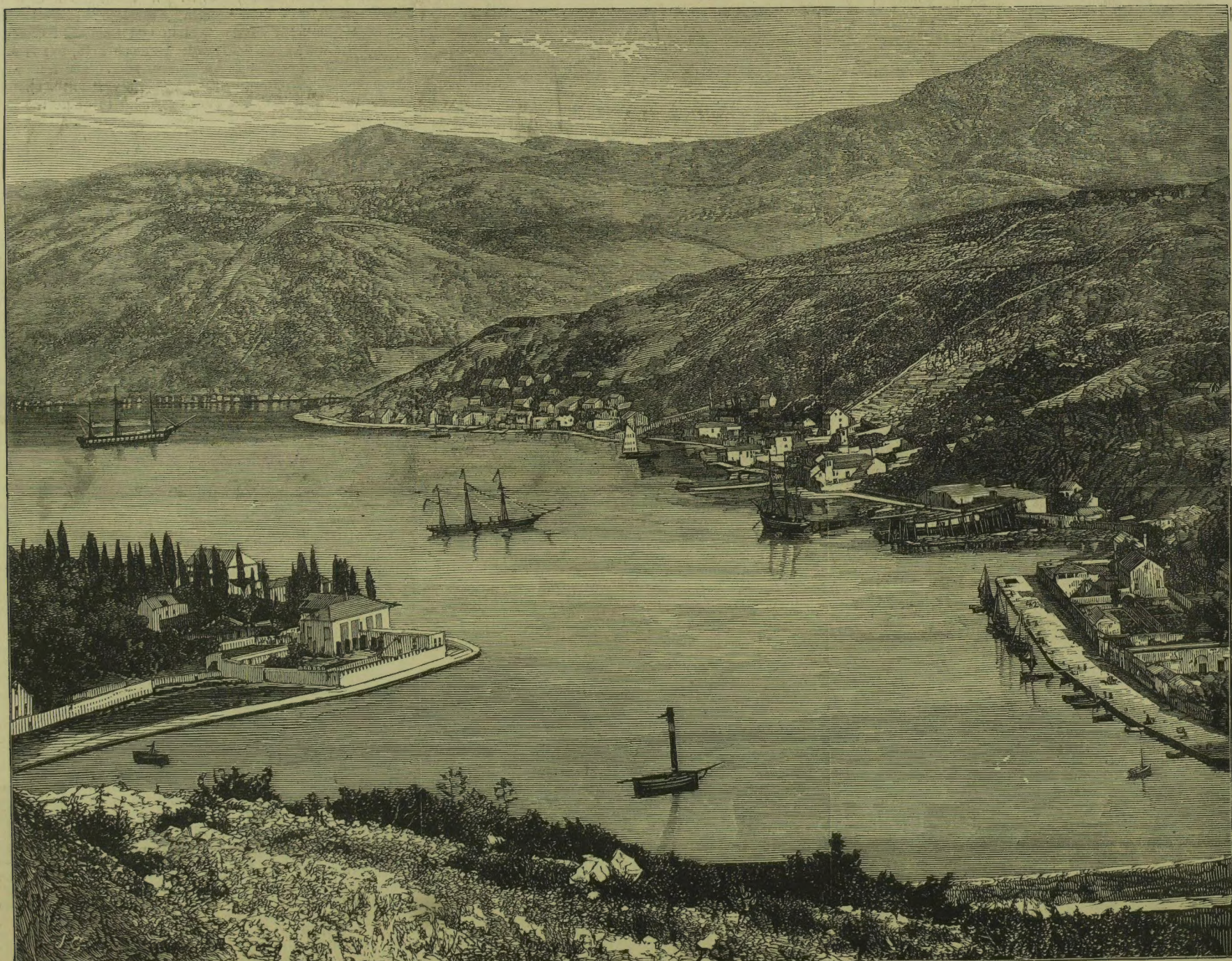
Mem.: The words of Balfe's ballad, which was ground on every organ in London during many months, were excruciatingly parodied in a burlesque by Mr. Gilbert à Beckett, produced at the St. James's. I can only remember (and that faultily) a scrap of the first verse—

The Coat of Other Days has faded,
And all its glory's past,
Since dust with little specks hath shaded
The gloss too bright to last.

In mine old age I have found favour in the sight of the ladies. Both "Myra" and "Sylvia" have written me most gratifying letters thanking me for having drawn attention to their "fashion" journals in a recent paragraph about the Paris "Art de la Mode." But my dear Mesdames or Mesdemoiselles there was nothing whatever to thank me for. I am as constant to "Myra" as I am to "Sylvia;" but I also adore "Le Follet," I dote on Madame Marie Schild's "*Journal des Modes*," and I revel in the "*Ladies' Gazette of Fashion*," "*La Mode Parisienne*," and a dozen more periodicals of the same class, which I regularly take in. I have no heart: I am only a collector. At the same time, I renew my thanks to my fair correspondents, not wholly forgetting the possible contingency of "Myra" being a barrister of seven years standing, and "Sylvia" an ex-captain of heavy dragoons. G. A. S.



CATTARO, ON THE ADRIATIC COAST.—SEE PAGE 278.



GRAVOSA, ON THE ADRIATIC COAST, WHERE THE COMBINED NAVAL SQUADRON OF THE EUROPEAN POWERS IS ASSEMBLED.—SEE PAGE 278.



TRANSPORTING SUPPLIES FOR MONTENEGRIN TROOPS AT PODGORITZA.

Our special Correspondent, Mr. Athol Mayhew, writes upon the subject of some of our Montenegrin Illustrations as follows:—"None but those who have travelled over the barren peaks and bluffs and spurs of that rocky region can possibly conceive the difficulties of transport in a country like Montenegro; where there are no carts, by reason of there being no roads; where the mountain tracks ascend by mere serpentine fissures in the cliff's side, or descend in perpendicular 'shoots' like dry cataract-courses. But the reader may form a very fair idea both of a Montenegrin highway and of the characteristic manner in which the men employ their womankind as pack-animals, for the conveyance of merchandise in peace, or of military baggage in war, by glancing at Mr. Woodville's drawing of transporting supplies for the troops at Podgoritza.

"If I cannot say that the 'beer and skittles' of life are

reserved only for the men in Montenegro, it is only because malt beverages and nine-pins have not, as yet, been included among the national pastimes. But if I may be allowed to substitute 'raki and tobacco' for our insular symbols for infinite enjoyment, then the alacrity with which a Montenegrin will take any given quantity of the former and consume endless *funti* of the latter, shows that he is keenly alive to recreative existence. Truth to tell, although he has a prodigious appetite for fighting, his stomach for any other form of hard work is, so far as I have observed, delicate in the extreme. As a soldier he is an overwhelming mass of vitality; and, while in quest of Turkish heads, the tough, sinewy fibre of the man is unconquered by hardship—his stalwart frame being apparently impervious to the vicissitudes of war and insensible to hunger, thirst, exposure, or fatigue. Regarded as a civilian, however, he is a conspicuous failure. Save the profession of arms, he

has neither trade nor calling. As the last trump of war fades from his ears, so his occupation vanishes into thin air. Henceforth he becomes as the lily of the field—though hardly as white. He toils not, neither does he spin. For himself, he takes no interest in agricultural pursuits. His thoughts are bent more upon storing up an abundance of cartridges than raising a heavy crop of potatoes. The utmost manual exercise he will permit himself is the tillage of such scraps of land as he can find in the hollows and basins of his barren rocks; but he handles his Wenzel rifle far more dexterously than he does the plough, and his eye is truer at sighting the long barrel of a "Gasser" revolver than making a straight furrow. For the rest, the noble warrior, under his pastoral aspect, will sit upon an elevated stone smoking for hours together, complacently superintending nature, whilst his children tend his sheep, and

his wife works herself into premature old age in the potato-patch, or hastens the partition of body and soul hoeing around the Indian corn. He rises with the sun and applies himself strictly to idleness for the day. At night, he rolls himself in his long woollen *strucche*—indifferent as to whether he reposes under his own rafters, or upon the hillside where night has overtaken him—and during the relaxation of sleep fortifies himself afresh to resume the inertia of the morrow.

"But peace in Montenegro is generally as brief as an autumn holiday, and it is no exaggeration to say that for the last 500 years wars have been as frequently recurring there as quarter-day with us. In this fact must be found the excuse for a country which at present is destitute of all trade, commerce, and industry, and at the solitary factory in the Principality at Cetinje, manufacturing only cartridges!

"Flint and steel seldom clash without flashing fire; and it argues well for the tact and toleration of Prince Nikita's Government that the only spot upon the borders of Montenegro and Albania where the white-coated Tzernagorians and the killed Arnauts meet and rub shoulders without making the sparks fly is in Podgoritz. In a former article I have said that the town has been only recently annexed to Montenegro, and that it is, both from its position and its size, by far the most important centre in the Principality. At present, it is true, the place is rather perilously exposed to assault and battery from Turkish artillery; but should the Montenegrins receive the broad plain, which stretches from the town away southwards, by way of Tusi, as far as Helm, on the lake of Scutari, in compensation for the territory at Gusinje and Plava, the safety of the place will be assured. In this event—I have it on the authority of M. Popovics, the Prince's secretary—the capital will be removed from its present airy perch among the barren rocks at Cetinje and become permanently located upon the fertile land at Podgoritz. For the nonce, however, and until the frontier question has been settled, the latter place is neither a safe nor a desirable locale for any executive save the Ministry of War."

PARISIAN SAYINGS AND DOINGS.

(From our own Correspondent.)

Paris, Tuesday, Sept. 14.

Although we are only in the middle of the Parliamentary recess the tide of political discussion is running very high. As long as the Chambers were sitting events were as dull as a London Sunday; but hardly had the deputies arrived in their respective departments than the storm broke out—first of all on the question of the execution of the religious decrees of March 29, and secondly on the question of the naval demonstration. The affair of the decrees concerning the unauthorised religious congregations is still enveloped in mystery; and, as far as one can judge from enigmatical and semi-official utterances of various newspapers, a Ministerial crisis is imminent. In France Ministerial crises are, by-the-way, in a chronic state of imminency. Since my last letter M. de Freycinet has been disowned by Gambetta, indirectly, and by means of a third person, M. Guichard, his intimate friend, who has written a letter to M. Devès, president of the Republican union, demanding the immediate meeting of the bureau of that group. M. Devès has replied likewise by a letter, which has been published in the newspapers. All this may seem very obscure to the outside observer. It is obscure in reality, unless you see that behind M. Guichard is M. Gambetta and behind M. Devès is M. de Freycinet. The upshot of it all is that M. Gambetta wishes that there should be talk of the meeting of the Chambers, but that they shall not meet, and that he should seem to wish for the execution of the decrees without ever having them executed. It is one of the manoeuvres of opportunism to conciliate public opinion. At the bottom of his heart, M. Gambetta doubtless wishes that M. Jules Ferry had never persuaded him to support the religious decrees. Meanwhile, he throws over M. de Freycinet to gain time until the Chambers meet and pass a new and comprehensive law regulating all kinds of associations, both civil and religious.

The naval demonstration against Turkey is considered by the Radicals not merely as ridiculous but as a violation of the Constitution, the Chambers having exclusive right of deciding questions of peace and war. It is announced that if Turkey refuses to obey, like the *lapin qui rebiffe*, the French will not take part in any hostile measures. Then what is the good of the demonstration. The French Commander will say to Turkey, "Now, you must obey our injunctions, or else *par la mort! la tuerie! la pousse!*" I will show you a move that you never can have expected." "What?" asks Turkey. "I shall just go home quietly, for I do not care two straws."

Naturally, in presence of all this hubbub, there is much conjecture as to who will replace M. de Freycinet at the head of the Foreign Affairs. M. Challemeil-Lacour is spoken of, with M. Ferry as Prime Minister and M. Paul Bert as Minister of Public Instruction. M. Floquet has been speechifying at Havre, with a view, doubtless, to a portfolio.

All this is, of course, mere talk and conjecture; but as everybody is discussing such matters, and as nobody knows the secret of the riddle, it is my duty to record simply what I hear. M. Grévy is expected at Paris this week, and a grand Ministerial Council will meet and, doubtless, pour oil upon the troubled waters of public opinion.

Paris is gradually waking up from its summer lethargy. The leaves are turning yellow, and the late loiterers in the Bois de Boulogne begin to feel the evenings growing cooler. Soon the open-air concerts in the Champs Elysées will be deserted, and Paris will settle down to its gay and cosy winter life. The theatres, as usual, defer night after night the production of their new pieces; but by the end of the week all of them will be open. Last night MM. Briet and Delcroix invited the press to visit the restored and redecored Palais-Royal Theatre, which is now certainly one of the prettiest in Paris. The idea of offering a soirée to the press is an innovation, and an ingenious one. How can a critic speak ill of a theatre whose managers offer him ices and champagne and a fine instrumental concert by the Tsiganes? When I saw Christine Nilsson in a *baignoire*, I thought that we were to have a vocal concert also, the more so when I discovered Thérèse in an *avant-scène* opposite. The theatre has been very beautifully redecored, and in the foyer M. Bayard has painted a frieze in which he has represented all the famous actors of the Palais Royal from the days of its founder, Mlle. Montansier, up to the days of the joyous and rubicund D'Aubray. To-night the theatre opens its doors to the public with a revival of "Les Diables Roses" and "Les Deux Chambres," a new piece by Maurice Ordonneau.

The affair of Colonel Jung, about which I sent you some particulars last week, is pursuing its regular course before the tribunal. The charge of betraying War Office papers to Germany brought against the Colonel will be thoroughly investigated. M. de Woestyne has summoned as witnesses General Farre, the Minister of War, Marshal MacMahon, General de Cissey, and the Baronne Kaulla, the wife of General Jung. Colonel Jung is separated from his wife, who

is a German lady, known as Baronne Kaulla. When Colonel Jung was taken prisoner at Sedan and sent to a fortress in Germany, it happened that his gaoler was his own brother-in-law. While the matter is *sub judice* it would be presumptuous to hazard any conjecture as to the real state of the case.

An international postal Congress, under the presidency of the Minister of Posts and Telegraphs, M. Cochery, will open in Paris on Oct. 9. The object of the Congress, which will last three weeks, will be to arrange a tariff for an international parcels post.

On Thursday last the *Journal Officiel* published two decrees touching upon the great question of bringing Central Africa into communication with the civilised world. I have already spoken in a previous letter of the activity of the French in African exploration, and of their desire to take advantage of the position of their colony at Senegal. In Central Africa there are two vast and fertile regions which are placed in a state of complete isolation by their distance from the sea and the difficulty of communications. One of these regions in the southern hemisphere will, perhaps, be some day connected with the Mediterranean by the Nile, with the Indian Ocean by a railway, and with the Atlantic by the Congo. The other region, in our hemisphere, may be connected with the Mediterranean by the proposed Sahara Railway, and with the Atlantic by several proposed lines of railway, one of which would pass through the French colony of Senegal, and put it into communication with the upper basin of the Niger, which is inhabited by independent tribes. This railway from the Atlantic to the upper basin of the Niger was proved to be possible by the explorations of Lieutenant Mage. The decrees which I have mentioned above are to organise expeditions for studying the details of the line, first of all between the upper basin of the Senegal river and the upper basin of the Niger.

The annexation of the Society Islands, which was announced in the *Journal Officiel* last week, is not viewed here with unmixed satisfaction. The Radicals consider the event as a perpetuation of the arbitrary and proconsular traditions of the Empire, which the principles as well as the interests of the Republic condemn. The annexation practically took place forty years ago, and there is no reason to suppose that the subjects of Pomaré have become subjects of France of their own free will. Henri Rochefort, who knows something about that part of the world, wrote a terrible article on the subject last week. When Cook visited the Tahiti he reckoned the population at 80,000. In 1870 (says Rochefort) the French protectorate, the French missionaries, and the régime imposed by the monks of the Marist order, had reduced the population to 8000; it is now 7000. The Marists have forced the indolent Oceanians to fish for pearls and to make cocoa-nut oil; and it is a significant fact that the fortune of the Marists, who are spread all over Oceania, is estimated at more than thirty-five millions of francs. Under Napoleon III. the French Government Commissioner at Tahiti introduced the guillotine in order to give a fresh impulse to the depopulation of the country.

Amongst the minor events of the week are the opening of the autumn race-meetings at the Bois de Boulogne; the proclamations of the banns of marriage between the *seigneur* and *petillante* Jaume Samary, of the Comédie-Française, and M. Paul Lagarde; the appearance of a new comic journal, *La Silhouette*; and of a new two-sous cigar, which differs from the old *deux-soutados* in being square instead of round.

T. C.

TAHITI.

Tahiti, or Otaheite, which beautiful island, with its adjacent islands, has just been annexed to France, is the principal of the Society Islands, is situated in the South Pacific, in lat. 17 deg. 29 min. 2 sec. S., and long. 149 deg. 29 min. W., and has been for some time a kind of head-quarters for the French Navy in those seas. It is about 108 miles in circumference and thirty-two miles long, and is described as an elongated range of highland, which, being interrupted in one part, forms an isthmus (submerged at low water) about three miles broad, which connects the two peninsulas. The larger of these is Tahiti proper, while the smaller is named Tairaboo, and both are surrounded by coral reefs. The highest summit in the island is a mountain in the northern part, 8500 feet above sea level; another attaining 6979 feet. From these two peaks ridges diverge to all parts of the coast, throwing off spurs as they descend. The fertile portion of the island lies in the valleys, which are of small extent, and in the plain, which stretches from the seashore to the spurs of the mountains. These produce tropical plants in great abundance and luxuriance. The climate is agreeable, being warm, but not enervating. The natives are a good-humoured, gay, happy, and cheerful people, and are further described as honest, well-behaved, and obliging. They have been converted to Christianity by the labours of missionaries, and there are few of them who cannot both read and write. The island is divided into seven districts, and is the seat of a Supreme Court, consisting of seven Judges, two of whom reside in Eimeo. Several vessels of about 130 tons burden have been built there, which have been employed in the trade to New South Wales, whither they carry sugar, cocoa-nut oil, and arrowroot, the principal productions of the island, and whence they bring back in return hardware, cloths, calicoes, &c. Most of the vessels that visit Tahiti are whalers, though until lately they only averaged less than one hundred annually. Its principal town and port is Papiete, and its estimated population is somewhat over 9000. In 1842 a protectorate was established over Tahiti by France, in virtue of a convention between the then Queen (Pomare) and Admiral Dupetit-Thouars, the Queen and her successors retaining their sovereign rights and also the administration of the country, but the foreign relations of the islands being under the control of the French Government. Up to 1846 a small portion of the natives struggled against this protectorate, but since the population have caused no embarrassment to France, and virtually it has been a French possession since that year.

The returns of emigration from the Mersey, prepared at the Board of Trade offices in Liverpool, show that, large as was the exodus in the month of July, it was nearly equalled by the departures in the past month. The total number of vessels that sailed from Liverpool during August with emigrants was 83, and the total number of persons they carried 15,941. In July last the total departures were 16,248. The increase this year in emigration as compared with last is indicated by the fact that in August, 1879, only 13,588 emigrants sailed, there being thus a balance in favour of the past month of 2353. The detailed returns for August show that 13,454 persons sailed to the United States; 2194 to British North America; 29 to Australia; 102 to South America; 20 to Honolulu; 56 to the East Indies; 14 to the West Indies; 4 to China; and 68 to the West Coast of Africa. The nationalities of the emigrants, so far as could be ascertained, were—English, 8504; Scotch, 187; Irish, 1788; foreign, 4974.

THE NAVAL DEMONSTRATION IN THE ADRIATIC.

Our illustrations of Gravosa and Cattaro, Austrian seaports of the Adriatic Coast, have a special interest connected with the presence this week, at the first-named port, of the combined naval squadrons of the six Great Powers, to enforce upon the Ottoman Government and the Albanians a recent decision of the Conference at Berlin, for the cession of Dulcigno by the Turkish Empire to the Principality of Montenegro.

On Tuesday morning, as we learn by telegraph, the assemblage of the combined squadrons was completed by the arrival of the French ironclads Suffren and Friedland. The whole fleet now in the harbour of Gravosa, which is the larger and deeper harbour of the Austrian port of Ragusa, consists of twenty war-ships, carrying 136 great guns, and manned by crews amounting together to 7300 men. They are British, French, Russian, German, Austrian, and Italian, under the chief command of Vice-Admiral Sir Frederick Beauchamp Seymour. He takes this position as senior naval officer, not as claiming any superiority for Great Britain; and we learn that his authority over the commanders of the foreign squadrons is limited to the technical and maritime operations. In anything of a political or warlike character, he would have to confer with the other Admirals, who would be guided entirely by the instructions of their own respective Governments. It is understood that in no case will any forces be landed from the ships for military operations ashore. Such is the arrangement of this "naval demonstration." A correspondent of the *Times* at Ragusa, describing the position of the combined fleet, says:—"The port of Gravosa resembles a Norwegian fiord in its general aspects. At the northern end it is partly sheltered by the island of Dexa from south-westerly gales. Her Majesty's ships *Alexandra* and *Téméraire*, with the gun-vessel *Condor* and the despatch-boat *Helicon*, have been moored with hawsers to rocks on shore. South of them are the Russian ships *Svetlana* and *Jenschoug*. Beyond are moored in the stream the Austrian ironclad *Custoza*, next the Italian ironclad *Palestro*, with the German corvette *Victoria*. Inshore in Ombla Creek is the Italian ironclad *Roma*, and in the real port of Gravosa are the Austrian ships *Loudon*, *Prinz Eugen*, and *Srenyie*. Not more than three weeks of weather now remain during which it would be advisable for ironclads to navigate the Adriatic, as the weather breaks up generally in October. The Turks appear to be counting on this, and think that, with a little procrastination, the bad weather will effect the dispersion which international jealousies apparently will not. Another despatch seems to indicate that the bad weather has already begun. It says:—"A tremendous thunderstorm, with violent squalls, burst over the fleet on Saturday night, and the Italian ironclad parted the hawser mooring her to shore and shifted her berth further out on Sunday morning. The British ships are in by far the safest anchorage, in twenty fathoms, with good holding ground." The French ships—namely, the *Suffren*, the *Friedland*, and the despatch-boat *Hirondelle*, have taken up a position next to that of the British squadron.

The bay or inlet of Gravosa, as shown in our Illustration, is landlocked and surrounded by hills, so that it affords a secure harbour, except against a northerly wind, the "Bora," which in the autumn and winter is frequent and extremely violent. This harbour is formed by a hilly and rocky peninsula, which projects two miles from the mainland in a north-westerly direction. The village of Gravosa, at the head of its harbour, is only a mile and a half distant from the town of Ragusa, which is situated on the more open shore to the south-east of Gravosa. The height of Mount Vierna and Mount Petka, in the aforesaid peninsula, with Fort Imperial overlooking both waters, and several other forts and batteries at the entrance to the inlet, afford great facilities for the defence of Gravosa.

As for Ragusa, though anciently of great commercial and political importance, its natural strength is far less considerable. Its roadstead is sheltered by the island of Lacroma, which has some historic and romantic interest as the place where Richard Cœur de Lion, in his return voyage from the Crusades, went ashore and fell into the hands of the Duke of Austria. Ragusa was an independent mercantile Republic, of the Venetian type, during many ages of mediæval history. We gave some illustrations of the fine old city, which is now sadly decayed, in our publication of Sept. 16, 1876. Its own harbour, not including the adjacent harbour of Gravosa, has only accommodation for small vessels of 200 tons, which quite accounts for the dwindling trade and diminished population, now reduced to six or eight thousand. It is still, however, along with Cattaro, thirty-six miles farther down the seacoast, the chief outlet of products from the Herzegovina, which has lately been annexed, with Bosnia, to the Austrian Empire.

Cattaro, which may possibly be visited by the combined naval squadrons, as it is the port nearest to Montenegro, possesses the best harbour of the Adriatic. This is formed by a winding gulf or inlet, thirty miles long, which presents three basins, with connecting straits, inclosed by protecting hills or mountains. The town is even smaller than Ragusa, but was once a petty commonwealth, which became part of the Republic of Venice in 1420. It was, like Ragusa, taken by the French under Napoleon I., from whom it was taken by England, and was given to Austria at the Congress of Vienna, in 1815.

Dulcigno, which is ninety miles south-east of Ragusa, on the strip of Albanian coast separating the Adriatic Sea from the Lake of Skutari, was captured by the Montenegrins in the late war with Turkey. At the Congress of Berlin, in July, 1878, it was settled by formal treaty that the Sultan should cede to Montenegro the inland districts of Tusi and adjacent valleys, giving access to the navigable lake from the Montenegrin highlands. The execution of this plan has been resisted by the Mussulman Albanians of Skutari, and not less by the Roman Catholic tribes, the Miridites and others, inhabiting those border lands. It has consequently been agreed by the Berlin Conference this year, with the assent of the Turkish Government, that, as an alternative, instead of Tusi, the seaport of Dulcigno, which the Montenegrins had relinquished at the peace, shall be ceded to their Principality. The Albanians, however, still threaten resistance, and have taken possession of Dulcigno, with or without the connivance of the Turkish provincial authorities. This is the present difficulty, for which the united naval forces of all Europe have been collected to make a "demonstration." Some further illustrations of the subject will appear in our next.

The foundation-stone of a new building in course of erection in New Bridge-street, Newcastle, for the new public library, was laid on Monday afternoon by Mrs. H. W. Newton. The lending department of the library, containing 19,783 volumes, was also formally opened by Mr. Alderman Cowen, M.P., the chair being occupied by Mr. H. Newton. After the ceremony the company adjourned to luncheon in the Westgate Assembly Rooms. A crowded public meeting was held in the Townhall in the evening, when Mr. Cowen, M.P., occupied the chair.

THE PLAYHOUSES.

The dramatic world (it is a much larger world than I, who for many years had ceased to be a playgoer, imagined, for the "Playhouses" column bring me nearly as many letters as the "Echoes" do) is in a fever of expectation touching an important dramatic event which is to "come off" on Saturday, the eighteenth instant: the day of publication of this Journal—when the "legendary" drama of "The Corsican Brothers" is to be revived at the Lyceum, with, of course, Mr. Henry Irving in the characters of Fabien and Louis de Franchi. It is not precisely accurate to say that "The Corsican Brothers," as altered for the English stage by Mr. Dion Boucicault, is founded upon Dumas' novel of "Les Frères Corses." There was a middle man between the French novelist and the English adapter. Mr. Boucicault's version is a free translation of a melodrama called "Les Frères Corses," which had a long run in Paris, and which was directly founded on the novel. I think that I can speak "by the card" in this matter, since it so chanced that (early in '52, I think) I translated Alexandre Dumas' romance (there is a strange episode in it of a feudal Corsican Baron who keeps a captive lady in a cage by the wayside) for Mr. Pierce, the publisher, of the Strand, and that (in conjunction with my brother) I translated the French melodrama and produced it as "The Corsicans" at the Surrey Theatre, then under the management of Messrs. Shepherd and Creswick. Mr. Creswick played the leading character; but we altered the names as much as we could from those in the Princess's version. The deed of translation from the French was done in the course of a single summer's night (I think we worked from nine p.m. till seven p.m. on the morrow); and within ten days the Surrey piece (the Princess's one had taken many weeks of elaborate preparation) was "out." The scenery was painted by Mr. W. J. Callcott.

Mem.: The famous Masquerade scene in "The Corsican Brothers" was, I believe, entirely Mr. Boucicault's own, and affords only another illustration of his exceptionally keen insight into the requirements of the English stage. The French have been satiated these many years past with theatrical simulations of *bals masqués* and with real *bals masqués* to boot; and, unless my memory woefully deceives me, only the box-lobby of the Opera was shown: but it is the gift of Mr. Boucicault, as it was that of Oliver Goldsmith, to touch nothing that he does not adorn. To be sure, he has touched a good many things in his time.

I undertook a few evenings ago a somewhat lengthy pilgrimage to the National Standard Theatre, High-street, Bishopsgate. When I was young we used to speak of the Standard, Shoreditch. It was there, many years since, that I saw certainly the next best to Mrs. Keeley's wonderful impersonation of Jack Sheppard. The Standard Jack (or was it the City of London?) was Mrs. R. Honner. Be it as it may, it was quite another Standard Theatre, of a stall in the auditorium of which I found myself an occupant a week ago. A vast house—so vast as to remind you of one of those immensely roomy theatres on the Rambla at Barcelona—handsomely decorated, with plenty of approaches, wide stone staircases, a spacious vestibule, mirrors, hangings; neat-handed Phyllises in "pinafore" dresses and "Goody Twoshoes," otherwise "Kate Greenaway," caps to conduct you to your seat; and, with smiles as sweet as those of Fielding's Amelia when Captain Booth came home to tea (he always came home to tea), these dainty damsels handed you programmes with embossed edges, redolent of Rimmel. And all this in Shoreditch—I mean in High-street, Bishopsgate.

The performance at the house so excellently conducted by Messrs. J. and E. Douglass was extremely good. First came a drama of the Domestic Affections, called "The Noble Soldier; or, Love in Humble Life;" and after that was given the great legendary drama by Dionysius Briareus Boucicault (who has herein "touched" and adorned Washington Irving), of "Rip van Winkle; or, the Sleep of Twenty Years." Rip was played, and very well played, too, by the American comedian, Mr. J. A. Arnold; and it is extremely embarrassing to remember that he, and, indeed, many other highly efficient Rip van Winkles, can never obtain a full meed of justice from critics who have seen Mr. Joseph Jefferson in the part of the tipsy but tender-hearted slumberer of the Catskills. Fortunately for me, some years have elapsed since I saw Mr. Jefferson in Rip. That accomplished artist and comedian happened to be making one of his professionally triumphant progresses through the States when I was there last year. In fact, for some weeks I may say that I travelled "en sandwich," so to speak, between Mr. Joseph Jefferson and Mr. John MacCulloch. The comedian was generally a city before me and the tragedian a city behind me. Now and again we "collided" and "telescoped" (happily without damage), notably at Richmond in Virginia, and at Augusta; and there I believe my belongings went to the local playhouses to see Mr. Jefferson. I did not go. I was watching the more novel performances at a much bigger theatre. I was thus enabled to come comparatively fresh to Mr. Arnold's performance of Rip Van Winkle at the Standard, and I am glad to note it as a very studious, earnest, and artistic impersonation. His scenes of dalliance with the children were exceedingly good. The Derrick Von Beeman of Mr. W. M. Intyre was also very intelligent; although, in "make-up," &c., Mr. M. Intyre was slightly too suggestive of a historic conspirator, hight Guido Vaux.

But Mrs. Billington in her original character of Gretchen van Winkle, Rip's incomparably shrewish wife! I will trouble you for Mrs. Billington as Gretchen, if you please. I should like to place her on a pedestal and keep her in a glass case, and walk round her, and admire her, and analyse her—always keeping at a respectful distance; for Gretchen's arm is long, and her flexor and extensor muscles are wondrously tough and supple; and when she hits, she hits hard. And her tongue; I will not trouble you for her tongue, thank you. I hear it now, thrilling through the vast house in Bishopsgate; and it makes my ears tingle; and I tremble. Seriously, I look upon Mrs. Billington's Gretchen as one of the most original, the most powerful, and the most artistic dramatic conceptions the modern stage has seen. Were it not wicked to take liberties with Shakspeare, I should like to see a new version of "Katherine and Petruchio," with Mrs. Billington as the heroine of a play, to be called "The Shrew whom Petruchio could Never have Tamed."

Mem.: How curiously true to American life, and how curiously different from English manners, are the domestic scenes in "Rip Van Winkle." Gretchen has the privileges of a *fine sole*, and owns house property in her own right. She beats her tipsy husband with a broomstick and turns him out of doors on a stormy night. In England things are managed in precisely a contrary manner: 'tis the drunken husband who beats his sober wife and turns her out of doors. G. A. S.

MUSIC.

THE GLOUCESTER MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

Our last week's record of this event was necessarily incomplete, as the Festival did not close until the Friday night. But little additional need be said in reference to the performances of Mozart's "Requiem" and Spohr's "Last Judgment." The solos in the former were well sung by Miss de Fonblanque, Madame Patey, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. Santley; those in the last-named work by Misses Anna Williams and Damian, Mr. Maas and Mr. F. King. The "Requiem" was preceded by the two completed movements of Schubert's unfinished symphony in B minor. In the evening a fine performance of "St. Paul" was given in the cathedral, the solo music having been efficiently rendered by Miss A. Williams, Madame Patey, Mr. Maas, Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. Santley, Mr. F. King, and Signor Ghilberti.

Thursday morning's performance was of a very mixed character. First came the fine "Dixit Dominus" in C major (for double choir), by Leonardo Leo, who flourished contemporaneously with Handel, and was the chief representative of the great Neapolitan school of church music in his period. The work contains some masterly choral writing, and some for solo voices that is in the suave and florid styles of the Italian opera of that time. The principal solo soprano music was finely sung by Madame Albani, who was well supported by Misses A. Williams and Wakefield, Mr. Maas, and Mr. F. King. Palestrina's "Stabat Mater," which followed, offered a fine example of the earlier and severer style of the sixteenth century. This work—also for two choirs—had an impressive effect amid the solemn surroundings of the cathedral. Some passages were assigned to solo singers, these being Misses A. Williams, De Fonblanque, H. Wilson, and Damian; Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. Maas, Mr. F. King, and Signor Ghilberti. The next piece was Mr. H. Holmes' new cantata "Christmas Day" (the words by Keble), composed expressly for the Festival. The vocal portions of the work are by far the best written and most effective. The solo music lies well for the voices, and is smooth and melodious in character; but nowhere presents any marked individuality or originality. The movements of this class are the tenor solo "Yet stay," and that for soprano, "Wrapped in His swaddling bands," and the duet "The pastoral spirits," which were well sung, the first by Mr. E. Lloyd the second by Miss A. Williams, the duet by both these singers. Of the several choruses, the most important are the motet for triple choir, "Thee on the bosom laid," and the final movement, "O faint not." Mr. Holmes conducted the performance of his cantata.

The concluding portion of Thursday morning's performance was the specialty not only of the day but of the whole festival. It was a bold undertaking to produce a work so exceptionally elaborate and difficult as Beethoven's mass in D (the "Missa Solennis") at a provincial festival, the rehearsals for which are necessarily in sections until the assemblage of all the executants on the spot affords the only opportunity for a full rehearsal of all concerned. It is, therefore, most honourable to Mr. C. H. Lloyd to have carried out his arduous undertaking with such success as that which attended it. Of the unparalleled sublimity of the work, which belongs to Beethoven's latest period, and was esteemed by him as his greatest composition, we have several times spoken in detail, and it will be sufficient now to say that its elevated religious sentiment, purity and beauty of expression, and grandeur of conception and construction produced the most profound impression, finely rendered as it was, and heard in a temple of worship, whose associations aid in effects that can scarcely be realised by sacred music when performed in secular buildings. The very difficult soprano solo part was splendidly sung by Madame Albani, the tones of whose superb voice, at once brilliant and sympathetic, and her certain execution of passages that severely test the highest vocal powers, will long be remembered by those who were present. The other solo portions—also of exceptional difficulty—were satisfactorily rendered by Madame Patey, Mr. E. Lloyd, and Mr. Santley. The exquisite violin solo which runs throughout the "Benedictus" was delicately played by M. Sainton. The choral writing in this mass requires for its execution not only choristers of special excellence, but, even with this requisite, long preparation and frequent rehearsal. These conditions would seem to have been observed at Gloucester, judging from the generally satisfactory result obtained.

Of the concluding Oratorio performance, on the Friday morning, it will be sufficient to say that "The Messiah" was worthily given, the solos by Madame Albani, Misses A. Williams and Damian, Madame Patey, Mr. Maas, Mr. Santley, and Mr. F. King.

At the two miscellaneous evening concerts in the Shirehall, on the Tuesday and the Thursday, the vocal performances of Madame Albani were the chief features—on the first occasion, in Spohr's fine scena, "Tu m'abbandoni," and an Irish ballad; in the second instance, in the scena, "Sovenir dei prim' anni" (with violin obbligato by M. Sainton), from Hérold's "Le Pré aux Clercs," and the duet, "Una remota, vaga rimembranza," from Wagner's "Der Fliegende Holländer" (as Italianised). The brilliant delivery of Hérold's scena elicited an enthusiastic demonstration that was acknowledged by repeating the latter portion. In the duet, Madame Albani was associated with Mr. Santley, who was the representative of the Dutch Captain in the Italian performances of the work at Drury Lane Theatre in 1870. Another specialty at Thursday's concert was the very clever violin playing of Mr. Sutton, who executed Viextemps' difficult "Ballade et Polonoise" with great success. M. Sainton (whose pupil Mr. Sutton is) conducted in this instance. The programme also included vocal pieces by most of the principal singers, two choruses—"Thou Comest," from Mendelssohn's "Edipus" music, and Mr. Prout's "Hail to the Chief,"—and Sterndale Bennett's overture "Die Waldnymphen," and Schumann's first symphony (in B flat), effectively played by the orchestra.

The Festival was supplemented yesterday (Friday) week by a special evening service in the nave of the cathedral, the musical portion having included the co-operation of the orchestra and chorus. A new "Magnificat" and "Nunc Dimittis," composed for the occasion by Mr. C. H. Lloyd—skillfully-written pieces—and Sir F. A. G. Ouseley's Anthem, "The Lord is the true God," were well rendered.

Mr. C. H. Lloyd has fulfilled the onerous duties of conductor of the Festival with much success; Mr. Colborne (of Hereford) having co-operated as organist, and Mr. Done (of Worcester) occasionally as pianoforte accompanist.

The collections at the cathedral were less than at the last Gloucester Festival (in 1877), the amount this year having been about £600; this, however, will be largely increased by the stewards' contributions and donations, to be hereafter received; and it is expected that nearly £1600 will ultimately be realised for the benefit of the widows and orphans of the poorer clergy of the dioceses of Hereford, Worcester, and Gloucester, this being the object of these three-choir meetings, held in yearly alternation at each place—that just recorded having been the 157th annual occasion.

Messrs. Gatti's season of promenade concerts at Covent

Garden Theatre will close with the end of next week. Last Monday was a Mendelssohn night, and Wednesday was a classical night. Thursday's programme was chiefly devoted to music of a humorous character, the principal pieces having been Mozart's "Musicalischer Spass" (Musical Joke), the finale of Haydn's "Farewell" symphony, Gounod's "Funeral March of a Marionette," and Romberg's "Toy Symphony." Under the conductorship of Mr. F. H. Cowen, these concerts have maintained unflinching interest since their commencement, on July 31.

A season of Italian opera, at cheap prices, is to begin at Her Majesty's Theatre on Monday, Oct. 18.

The Brixton Choral Society—directed by Mr. W. Lemare—is about to begin the rehearsals for a new season, to consist of four concerts, at which will be given Haydn's "Creation," Hiller's "Song of Victory," Weber's "Preciosa," Mendelssohn's "Loreley" music, Rossini's "Stabat Mater," Mr. Arthur Sullivan's "The Prodigal Son," and Handel's "Samson."

The programme of the Leeds Triennial Musical Festival—to be held in the Townhall, in aid of the local medical charities, on Oct. 13 and three following days—has been issued. The principal vocalists are Madame Albani, Mrs. Osgood, Miss Anna Williams, Madame Patey, Madame Trebelli, Mr. E. Lloyd, Mr. J. Maas, Mr. Henschel, Mr. H. Cross, and Mr. F. King. Mr. Arthur Sullivan is the conductor, and Dr. Spark the organist. The Duke of Edinburgh will preside.

NATIONAL SPORTS.

After a very long spell of beautiful weather, we seem to have suddenly stepped from summer into mid-autumn, and the first day of the Doncaster meeting was very wet and uncomfortable. The miserable morning may partially account for the very poor attendance round Mr. Tattersall's rostrum on Tuesday morning, but we fear that there is little money in the market for the purchase of blood stock; and, though some sixty lots were offered, only eleven changed hands. Mr. Wright may, therefore, be accounted fortunate in getting rid of four of his eight yearlings, especially as Royal Blue, a beautiful colt by Blue Gown—Lucy Bertram, made 800 gs. A bid of 950 gs. was made for Alfred, another young Blue Gown, but, his reserve price being 1000 gs., he was sent back unsold. The remaining lots changed hands at very low figures. The rain ceased just before racing began, but soon came down again, and there were several violent storms during the afternoon. As usual, the Fitzwilliam Stakes was first on the programme, and the very useful Tower and Sword proved good enough to dispose of eight moderate opponents. Amy Melville, who created such a surprise by beating Sleeping Beauty and Genone at Kempton Park, won the Clumber Plate very cleverly, and, after two other minor races, ten numbers were hoisted for the Great Yorkshire Handicap. Mr. Perkins did not start either Dresden China or Roehampton, and though weight of money, consequent on her having won a great trial, made Bonnie Marden (6 st. 3 lb.) first favourite during the morning, the public never deserted Reveller (7 st. 12 lb.), so that at last 3 to 1 was taken freely about each of them. Bay Archer (8 st. 9 lb.) was next in demand, but both Elizabeth (7 st. 8 lb.) and Favo (7 st. 7 lb.) receded considerably in the quotations. Bonnie Marden ran prominently for a mile and a quarter, when she was beaten, and Reveller, taking the lead as soon as they were fairly in the straight, won just as he chose from Roulette (6 st.) and Schoolboy (6 st. 5 lb.), neither of whom had a price in the market. Both first and second belong to Mr. Jardine, who has been very lucky in handicaps this season. The heavy ground was all against Favo and Elizabeth, the former of whom is a roarer, while the latter does not care to gallop more than a mile; and the poor performance of Bonnie Marden was one more proof of the wretched quality of the Oaks field. The opposition to Bal Gal for the Champagne Stakes was stronger than had been generally anticipated, but doubtless the knowledge that her wind is affected induced owners of youngsters that could gallop at all to have a cut at Lord Falmouth's flyer. Iroquois, who ran such a rattling race with her in the July Stakes at Newmarket, never saw where she went on Tuesday, and everything was pulling up as she passed the post.

The victory of Exeter over Roehampton and Pearlina in the opening race on Wednesday was very encouraging to the followers of his stable companion Robert the Devil; nevertheless, the public backed Bend Or so persistently that at last 4 to 1 could be obtained against the second in the Derby. Jenny Howlet was the first to appear on the course, and after Novice had shown the way in the preliminary canter, attended by Robert the Devil, Mr. McGeorge took the twelve runners under his charge, and at the first attempt the flag fell to a capital start exactly at four o'clock, the race being run in a blinding storm. Bend Or, who held a position on the inside, was first away, and he was followed by Robert the Devil, Zealot, Cipolata, the Abbot, Beauminet, and Jenny Howlet, with the Maryland colt acting as whipper-in. When they had settled down into their places Novice drew clear of Incendiary, who was now going on second, clear of Abbot, Apollo, and Jenny Howlet, while the others were headed by Bend Or, Robert the Devil, Zealot, and Cipolata, with Beauminet and Maryland colt in the rear. Little alteration took place in this order until going down the hill to the Rifle Butts, when Novice drew away with a three lengths lead of Incendiary, The Abbot, Apollo, and Jenny Howlet, then followed Bend Or and Robert the Devil, with Cipolata, Apollo, Abbot, and Zealot coming on next. Approaching the Red House Incendiary closed with Novice, while at the same time The Abbot, Bend Or, and Robert the Devil took closer orders with the leaders, of whom Cipolata, Apollo, and Jenny Howlet were in a line just behind the two favourites. Half a mile from home Novice and Incendiary were beaten, and Napsbury fell back into the company of Maryland, while Bend Or took up the running, and the favourite came on with a slight lead of The Abbot, at whose quarters lay Robert the Devil, Cipolata, Apollo, and Zealot, and to this lot the race was now confined. Before the bend was reached, about a quarter of a mile from home, Bend Or was in trouble, and on his retirement Robert the Devil shot out with a clear lead, followed by Abbot and Cipolata, and, striding along to the end, won easily by three lengths from Cipolata, who beat Abbot by a neck for second place; Zealot was fourth, Beauminet fifth, Bend Or sixth, Incendiary seventh, Apollo eighth, Novice ninth, and Jenny Howlet tenth; Napsbury walked in, and the Maryland colt was beaten off. Time, 3 min. 32 sec.

A six days' "go-as-you-please" race, twelve hours per day, which took place at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, last week, was won by Littlewood, of Sheffield, with a score of 406 miles 6 laps. There was also a twelve hours' race for amateurs, which fell to W. C. Davies, Westminster (Chester) R.C., who covered eighty-one miles. This is the best performance on record for either professionals or amateurs. The attendance throughout the week was poor in the extreme; so we hope that the days of these wearisome contests are numbered.

THE AUSTRALIAN CRICKETERS AT KENNINGTON OVAL.



POETRY.

Sophocles, according to tradition, was ninety years of age, or not much less, when he composed his beautiful "Œdipus at Colonus;" and *Ultima Thule*: by Henry Wadsworth Longfellow (George Routledge and Sons), will probably convince some of its readers that modern poets, like the ancient, though full of years, may still be full of song. If the Americans's latest productions seem poor in comparison with the lays of his prime, the reason may be rather that the themes are for the most part less inspiring than that the writer is less susceptible of inspiration.

Irresistible as was the song of the Sirens, it is impossible to read the preface of *The Odyssey of Homer*, Books I.—XII., translated into English verse, with notes and parallel passages, by Sir Charles Du Cane, K.C.M.G. (William Blackwood and Sons), without coming to the conclusion that the song of "blind Mæonides" himself has, for those who once permit themselves to listen, as potent a spell as that which was exercised by the sweet-voiced traitresses whom he has celebrated. Here is a gentleman, evidently of mature years and considerable experience, who, for lack of such trusty comrades as Perimedes and Eurylochus to bind him, as they bound Odysseus, hand and foot, and so prevent him from committing himself, has to make the following confession of amiable weakness and even infatuation. "I began this translation," he says, "more than five years ago, soon after my return from the Antipodes by a voyage round Cape Horn, the monotony of which I sought to beguile by reading once more that poem of which it has been well said that it is, above all others, 'The Epic of the Sea.'" First of all, he intended to confine himself to the four books from the ninth to the twelfth, both included; then, of course, he could not resist the charm and "was induced to add the four preceding ones," and ultimately he was compelled by the fascination of his task, as well as by a sense of symmetrical fitness, to "complete the first half of the poem with the four first books." Some day, no doubt, he will yield still further to the magic influence against which it is apparently vain for him to struggle, and will convert into English the other half of the poem. It may be said at once that he has produced a work which, though the lines occasionally halt, is creditable as a version, and more than usually valuable and interesting by reason of the added notes and parallel passages. The metre he has chosen is that which, to use his own words, is "familiarily known as 'ballad' metre," notwithstanding that he is "much exercised with the doubt whether it is possible for the whole, either of the *Iliad* or the *Odyssey*, to be adequately interpreted into English through the medium of only one metre." It may be remarked, however, that a translation accomplished in a variety of metres would obviously fail to reproduce one characteristic feature of the original, and would almost certainly produce a false impression as regards the Greek poet's or poets' style, upon the mind and senses of the purely English reader. There is no room here to discuss such matters at any length; but an opinion may be ventured to the effect that whatever there may be in the Homeric poems capable of adequate representation at all in English verse may be reproduced as faithfully, as vigorously, and as harmoniously in the "ballad metre" as in any other. The great obstacles in the way of a translator are, no doubt, the proper names, the titular epithets, as they may be termed, the mythological absurdities, as they seem to us moderns, the strange modes of address, the peculiar customs and habits of life, devoid of all that is poetical in the views of later ages; and these obstacles no metre or variety of metres would enable a translator to surmount. As regards the proper names, it is pertinent to observe that Sir Charles Du Cane belongs to the old school, and not only disregards the new-fangled fashion of spelling, but patronises the good or bad old practice of considering the Greek and Roman mythological nomenclature interchangeable at will, whether for convenience or from mere preference. A pretty careful comparison between the version given by Sir Charles of the book in which the meeting of Odysseus and Nausicaa is described and another, an unpublished version of the same book, also in "ballad metre," has led to the conviction, as might have been expected, that he has rendered some of the passages with noticeable spirit and grace, and that, on the other hand, there are many passages so rendered by him as to be far from satisfactory, suggesting the reflection that, if a poetical treatment of the Greek were more than flesh and blood could manage, an excellent translation in sheer prose was effected some little time ago by Messrs. Butcher and Lang. But when was it ever otherwise? Even Worsley's "Odyssey" is sometimes prosaic; and Sir Charles Du Cane can scarcely have hoped to throw Worsley into the shade. Sir Charles, translating the famous description of Olympus, writes—

She spake and of Olympus sought forthwith the lofty crest,
Whereon they say th' eternal seat of the great gods doth rest,—
That seat secure, whereon the blasts of rude winds never blow,
Nor ever is it wet with rain, nor carpeted with snow;
But round it spreads without a cloud the firmament serene,
And o'er it floats for evermore a light of silvery sheen.
There endless days the blest gods pass in joyance and delight;
And thither, having warned the maid, did Pallas wing her flight.

Eight lines are thus given for seven; which seven, in the unpublished version already spoken of, are rendered as follows:

Thus having said, Olympusward grey-eyed Athena clomb,
To where, men say, the gods have made their everlasting home;
Nor rocketh it with any wind, nor drippeth it with rain,
Nor lighteth any snow thereon; all cloudless doth remain
The floating air; and overhead the glory shimmers white;
There the blest gods for evermore have joyance and delight.
And thither, having schooled the maid, the Grey-eyed went her way.

Anybody who will take the trouble to compare the two versions with the original (Book VI., lines 41-47) will see in a moment that Sir Charles has introduced what is not to be found in the Greek, without much, if any, gain of perspicuity, smoothness, or poetical expression.

A very tender, pretty, picturesque piece of composition, with a prevailing tone of deep but gentle and winning melancholy, is *Riquet of the Tuft* (Macmillan and Co.), which is called "a love drama," and in which an anonymous writer has exhibited considerable powers of poetical conception and treatment. It may be worth while to recall to mind the story of fabulous Prince Riquet whose physical deformity was made up to him by the fairy's gift of mental and moral beauty. His portion in life, in fact, was, at the outset, something like that of the blind bard of whom Homer says, "Him the Muse loved exceedingly, and she gave him good and ill; she took his eyes away from him, but she gave to him sweet song." So with Prince Riquet: he was born with a hump; but the fairy Gentilla said to the Queen, his mother, "Fear not; I will care for your son. He shall be happy and beautiful when he comes to love and be loved, and he shall be wise and witty even in sorrow, and gay and kind to all, and he shall be able to make the woman who loves him as wise, and witty, and pleasant as himself." Of course, it is the business of this "love drama" to show how the fairy's promise is fulfilled. The drama is, almost from the very nature of the case, of the romantic, dreamy, sentimental, pensive, sentimental sort, with very little stir and excitement. It is

divided into three acts; the first exhibits Prince Riquet under the influence of a love for some fair vision that haunts him; the second brings him into personal communication with the reality, in flesh and blood, of his vision; and the third concludes with the incidents of "the deformed transformed" and the marriage of Prince Riquet, converted into a handsome young gallant, with the peerless Callista, the lady of his vision. The drama is, of course, allegorical, containing a moral; and the moral is that love will rectify any defects, whether outward or inward, of the beloved object, will make the witless wise and the crooked straight. This seems to be only another way of putting the old doctrine that love is blind, so blind that it cannot see how silly is the lovely woman or how misshapen the otherwise eligible man. Only in the case of Prince Riquet and Princess Callista the spectators, contrary to general experience, are affected by the same visual peculiarity as the high contracting parties. That such a composition should be of a somewhat airy and unsubstantial character was to be expected, and that it should suggest here and there the manner of the extravaganzas is neither to be wondered at nor condemned. It is, on the whole, a very agreeable, poetically written piece, though, perhaps, the language employed by the gardener and his son in the opening scene, and by others occasionally elsewhere, is less simple and unaffected than their condition and the fitness of things would seem to require.

Subjective poetry, such as the greater part of that which an anonymous writer has collected into a little volume entitled *A Love's Gamut and Other Poems* (C. Kegan Paul and Co.), requires, unfortunately, for its proper appreciation, that the reader should be able to perceive instinctively, as it were, what is the mental and moral condition of the writer, and what, if any, is likely to be the lesson taught, or the theory propounded, or the mystery meant to be revealed in any particular outpouring of the muse. Else the poet seems to be an utterer of dark sayings, of which it is impossible to divine the purport; one gropes about for a clue, one feels like a person who, having a knotted string to untie, cannot get hold of either of the ends. So, in the present case, the anonymous writer no doubt requires what is called a sympathetic reader; otherwise the compositions are liable to be set down, for the most part, as so many enigmas. Everybody can see that the writer is strong in passion and in colouring, and has no slight command of versification; but what is the drift of each, or any, effusion it is not everybody who could say or would venture to opine. Sometimes, however, it appears easier to declare what is the meaning than where is the poetry, as in the lines—

And, O love, it is hard that thy love,
The high heaven to me—
Should come to be common enough
To whose'er it may be!

This seems to be intelligible, certainly, but suggestive of far from a pleasant idea.

THE AUSTRALIA AND ENGLAND CRICKET-MATCH.

The great event of last week, for all who take an interest in the game of cricket, was the match played at Kennington Oval, the Surrey Ground, on the Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, between the representative eleven of Australia, headed by Mr. Murdoch, and the eleven amateur champions of England, whose captain was Lord Harris. Some account of it was given in our last, in the Record of National Sports. The performance day after day attracted a vast assemblage of spectators: 20,000 one day, 25,000 the next, paying for admission. The match ended, about four o'clock on the Wednesday afternoon, with a victory for England, having five wickets to spare in the second innings, and having exceeded the total score of the Australians for both innings, which attained the large number of 476 runs. The complete score appeared in our last. The eleven players of England were Lord Harris, Dr. W. G. Grace, Dr. E. M. Grace, Mr. G. F. Grace, Mr. A. P. Lucas, Mr. F. Penn, Mr. A. G. Steel, the Hon. A. Lytton, and three Nottinghamshire men, Mr. Barnes, Mr. Shaw, and Mr. Morley. The Australian players, who have been frequently mentioned as winning many local matches in this country, were Mr. W. L. Murdoch, captain, Mr. A. Bannerman, Mr. T. U. Groube, Mr. P. M'Donnell, Mr. J. Slight, Mr. J. M. Blackham, Mr. G. J. Bonnor, Mr. H. F. Boyle, Mr. G. E. Palmer, Mr. G. Alexander, and Mr. W. H. Moule. The Australian cricketers visited England two years ago, and were then victorious over a team which undertook to play for England, but which was not equal in force to the one engaged in the match of last week. The contest was renewed last year; and a party of English amateurs, led by Lord Harris, visited Australia in their turn; but the result was not altogether satisfactory, and it is scarcely agreeable to dwell upon it here. There was some very fine playing upon this last occasion; Dr. W. G. Grace's batting, to the amount of 152 in his first innings, and that of Mr. Murdoch, on the other side, in the Australian second innings, were remarkably good. The bowling was less worthy of note in the absence of Mr. Spofforth, the great Australian bowler, who was accidentally disabled; but much of the fielding, especially that of Lord Harris, excited a high degree of admiration. One of our illustrations shows his Lordship, at the long-off post, in the act of saving four runs which would have been made against his side by the batsman, if not stumped out, in the Australian second innings. At the wickets, also, Lord Harris performed in a masterly style, scoring 52 in a very short time, while Mr. Lucas made 55, and Mr. Steel, of Lancashire, 42, in the Monday's play. The batting, however, of Dr. W. G. Grace was such as can seldom have been equalled by any player. He remained in precisely four hours, making twelve "fours," ten "threes," fourteen "twos," and forty-six single runs. The first innings of the English eleven produced a score of 410 altogether. It was considered that the Australians were put at some disadvantage by the light not being so good, on these English September days, as they are accustomed to enjoy in their own climate. In bidding them farewell, at the conclusion of the match they had lost, Lord Harris spoke of them in handsome terms of friendly compliment. They will return to Australia, we trust, well pleased with the fair reception they have met with in this country, though finally defeated in the principal contest they have waged against the best cricketers of England.

The Sheriffs-elect for London and Middlesex, Mr. Alderman Fowler, M.P., and Mr. Herbert Jameson Waterlow, whose term of office will begin on the 28th inst., have appointed as their under-sheriffs Mr. Archibald Hambury, of the firm of Messrs. Hambury, Hutton, and Whitting, solicitors, of 62, New Broadstreet, and Mr. Edward John Layton, of the firm of Messrs. Layton, Son, and London, of 29, Budge-row; and as their chaplains the Rev. William Hunt, Rector of St. Michael's, Cornhill, and the Rev. Richard Whittington, Rector of St. Peter's, Cornhill. The first duty of the new Sheriffs will be to preside at the election of Lord Mayor on Michaelmas Day (Sept. 29), and for that office there is no opposition to the return of Mr. Alderman M'Arthur, M.P.

THE PENNY BUN.

The penny bun is generally believed to be peculiar to England; and one is apt, rightly or wrongly, to look upon it in its present form as a product of our own century. It certainly seems a quite unhistorical kind of food: one cannot imagine Oliver Cromwell eating a penny bun. It had, very likely, its Anglo-Saxon prototype; but its regularity, its stickiness of surface and paucity of plums, and its curious quality of never seeming quite fresh baked, must all have been acquired in or near the Victorian era. George IV., perhaps, vulgarised it: under his successors it acquired the *qualités* which belong to the *défauts* just enumerated.

For even monotony has its good points. If you go into a shop and ask for a penny bun, you know within a little what you will get. There are certain small Italian confectioners where stickiness is carried to the verge of the offensive and nastiness almost creeps in; but take it for all in all, the bun is about the safest of all articles of refreshment. Think of promiscuous coffee—look at the Mugby Junction sandwich—remember ordinary beer, restaurant wine, village cider—consider the meat you have met; the drinkables in France, the eatables in Germany, the everything of Spain—and confess that, greatly to its credit, our hero, wherever encountered, is an English bun.

It has its varieties, of course; but the points of difference are small. In many country towns you are supplied with an excellent bun—large, substantial, and not at all sticky, which contains no currants: a happy innovation, which, after all, is very likely but a survival, or a return to an earlier form—Greek, philologists tell us; though on such a question I would sooner trust bakers. Then, at one town at least—the quaint and delightful seaport of Yarmouth—the penny bun attains a sort of apotheosis, being resolved into four farthing ones: exquisite little things, the delight of the connoisseur, with a freshness as of youth, and daintily be-plummed, tempting the jaded palate that the luxuries of Robb or Buszard could not move.

And we will not be unjust to the metropolis. There is in London one shop where a distinct variety of bun is to be obtained, though it is sold under no pretentious name and does not in price exceed the modest penny. This bun is somewhat over-sticky when quite new, but loses this property—so serious in its effects upon the glove of young ladyhood—before many hours; it is slightly flavoured with saffron, but must not therefore be confounded with the actual saffron bun. The shop where this delicacy is to be purchased I must not name; such mention would have too much the air of an advertisement. But I may say that it is Italian by proprietor, modest in appearance, and, indeed, not very clean; that it is not a hundred miles from the Haymarket; and that behind its counter are usually to be seen a young matron and her sister who look exactly as if they had this moment stepped out of a Holy Family of Leonardo da Vinci.

And this divergence from the bun to the bun-seller reminds us what a story-teller—a Scheherazade, or perhaps a Sphinx—is this little cake. How strangely its purchase in some shop that very likely you have never noticed before brings you for a moment alongside another life, another personality, quite new to you, and curiously like or unlike those you already know. Sellers of buns, except in very thronged and busy shops, usually feel obliged to say something to their eating customers, if it is only—as often it is—a stereotyped criticism of the weather. Sometimes there is something very sad in the purely formal way in which the listless words "It's a very fine day" are dropped out; the speaker is—one knows almost without looking up—a tired, worn-faced woman of thirty, evidently with a large small family in the background. Not hers is the pleasure of the born seller of small goods, with whom conversation is an essential part of the stock-in-trade—whom, indeed, one suspects of carefully getting up the newspaper before encountering his early customers, whose information, mixed (often most illogically) with the aforesaid newspaper, is passed on—ever increasing, snowball-fashion—to those who drop in later.

Quite unlike this shrewd successor of the ancient pedlar is the gabbler pure and simple, who sells buns merely as a pretext for talk—inartistically reversing cause and effect; she (it is not unfair to indicate her sex distinctly) she too often, plunged in an absorbing discussion of the latest trial—her elbows settled well on the counter, her lips mysteriously approached to the colloquutor's ear—is apt to keep waiting, to disgust, finally to lose, some impatient and business-like applicant for a bun. It is like dram-drinking, this love of gabble: let us hope that all gabblers can afford it cost.

But there are comfortable, maternal, discreet bun-sellers as well—who advise, console, and cheer all the young women of the neighbourhood—and more young men too than you would be apt to think. I have one such in my eye now: wrinkled, spectacled, old, but with a very pleasant, powdery face: who sits at the receipt of not very overwhelming custom all through the quiet, lazy summer afternoon. Large flies tramp about over her muslin-covered tarts, children enter occasionally for "halfpenny stale" buns—she is always cheery, and encouraging to the little ones, and is wont to christen them offhand Tommy or Polly, as the case may be—but nothing really distracts her attention from the woes of the rather shapeless girl of sixteen, who has a cold (of all things in this weather) and a consequent unbecoming red nose, or of her elder sister, who has fallen in love, not absolutely for the first time, and wants Miss MacWhirter's real, candid, and unbiassed opinion of her conduct—and the young man. Miss MacWhirter's store of unforced sentiment is astonishing and inexhaustible; I sometimes fancy that she writes for the *Family Herald*—perhaps those wonderful "answers to correspondents"—and, sometimes, that she in her silliness is quite right and the wise people who laugh at her all wrong.

And this mention of old maids (for Miss MacWhirter represents the type, pure and simple—how pure, and how simple!) this digression naturally makes me digress yet further, by bringing me face to face with the largest class of consumers of penny buns. The connection between this edible and feminine celibacy is difficult to trace; but it is an undoubted fact that buns enough to reach from here to Labrador—tuns of buns, hogsheads and van-loads of them—are annually devoured by the old maids of Great Britain. The qualities on which we have insisted as especially appropriate to the penny bun—monotony, cheapness, want of strongly-marked flavour, and perfect harmlessness—are all such as might well recommend themselves to the old maid; as might be said, indeed, to bear affinity enough to her own existence, *triste et fade*. England is the country of specialities, *par excellence*; and here, with our strong beef and beer for robust and violent men, with ample and admirable provision for our countless babies, with sweets for schoolboys and vast factories of biscuits for mothers trying to tranquillise their noisy families—side by side with these, we have provided tea, weak or strong, animating or soothing, as required, to refresh our cohorts of visiting, chattering, shopping *old maids*; and, to sustain them during their constant, unvarying little afternoon excursions, the simple, homely, inexpensive Bun.

HOME NEWS.

There were severe thunderstorms in the midland counties on Tuesday.

The Axminster Board of Guardians have banished beer from the dietary table of their workhouse altogether; cocoa, coffee, and tea being substituted.

The Sanitary Institute of Great Britain—the president of which is the Duke of Northumberland—will this year hold its autumn congress at Exeter, Earl Fortescue presiding.

Sir E. J. Reed, M.P., on the 8th inst. laid the foundation-stone of the new mercantile, marine, and post-office buildings at Cardiff, which, it is stated, will cost £20,000.

Meetings of the Floral and Fruit Committees of the Royal Horticultural Society were held on Tuesday at South Kensington, and several first-class certificates were awarded for new plants.

By invitation of Colonel Haverly, the children of the Duke of York schools, accompanied by their own band, attended the matinée performance at Her Majesty's Theatre on Wednesday.

Sir P. Egerton, M.P., speaking at the Wirral Agricultural Show, congratulated his hearers upon the difference between last year's crops and this, which, he said, represented a gain of from £50,000,000 to £60,000,000 sterling.

Committees have been formed in North and South Wales to formulate a scheme for secondary and higher education in the Principality to be presented before the departmental committee recently nominated by the House of Commons.

On Monday night, at Sheffield, an Irishman, named Stephens, who is stated to have had a dispute with the "Irish Brotherhood," was called out of his house and shot in the mouth. Three men were afterwards seen running away.

At the parish church of Foleshill, Warwickshire, on the 8th inst., a deaf and dumb couple named Arthur Davis and Hannah Ellis were married. They made the responses on their hands, following the service from a book placed before them. The wedding excited great interest.

Mr. Johnson has been appointed Coroner for Canterbury, in the room of Mr. de Lasaux, solicitor, who recently resigned the office, after having held it for half a century. Mr. de Lasaux retains the office in respect to the county, which position he has occupied about sixty years.

On Monday morning Miss Beckwith began an attempt to swim for one hundred hours, during six days, at the Royal Aquarium, Westminster. The Princess of Wales was present during Monday afternoon, and seemed greatly interested in Miss Beckwith's exhibition of ornamental swimming.

The arrivals at Liverpool of live stock and fresh meat from the United States and Canada last week showed a large increase in comparison with the preceding week; there being a total of 2206 cattle, 2304 sheep, 686 pigs, 3993 quarters of beef, 302 carcasses of mutton, and 116 dead pigs.

The Raikes centenary was celebrated at Bangor on Tuesday by a procession of the Nonconformist Sunday schools, including some 3000 scholars. The procession marched through the town to Upper Bangor, where addresses were delivered by Mr. Watkin Williams, M.P., Mr. Richard Davies, M.P., and others.

Dr. Frankland reports that all the samples of Thames water supplied to the Metropolis during August were of very bad quality, and quite unfit for dietetic purposes owing to their pollution with organic impurity. The river waters, he adds, were delivered at a high temperature, which rendered them vapour and unpalatable.

Notwithstanding the very unfavourable state of the weather last Saturday, the programme of the Brighton Regatta, postponed from Wednesday, was successfully carried out, in presence of a great gathering of spectators. In the evening the prizes, amounting to £152, were distributed by the Mayor at the Aquarium.

The annual Congress of British Homœopathic Practitioners was held on the 9th inst. at Leeds, under the presidency of Dr. Yeldham, of London, who read an address on the pursuit of certainty in medicine. Papers on points of professional interest were read by Dr. Burnett (London), Dr. Drysdale (Liverpool), Dr. Dayes (London), and discussed.

The autumn show of the Brighton and Sussex Horticultural Society was held at the Pavilion on the 8th and 9th inst., being, for quality and quantity of exhibits, one of the best that has been held of late years; and on the same day the second annual show of the Whitechurch Floral and Horticultural Society was held, and was most successful.

Experiments were made on Monday at Woolwich with one of the 100-ton guns purchased of Sir William Armstrong, and with the emplacement in which it is mounted at the proof butts. One shot only was fired, the charge consisting of 423 lb. of pebble powder and a bolt weighing nearly one ton. The gun experimented upon is one of four which are intended for the defence of Malta and Gibraltar.

Earl Spencer, in company with the Lord Advocate, visited on Monday one of the elementary schools under the Edinburgh School Board and two of the same class of schools belonging to George Heriot's trust. His Lordship listened to the pupils going through their ordinary course of instruction, and asked many questions of the teachers regarding the pupils and the methods of tuition followed.

The season for salmon net-fishing in the Tweed closed on Tuesday. It has been the worst ever known, and less than a few fisheries are said to be heavy losers. Trout, although numerous, were below the average. The rental of the river has this year fallen from £14,000 to £13,000. In the month of August the Berwick Salmon Fisheries Company were 9000 fish short of the catch for the same month of last year.

The Aboyne Highland gathering, held near the entrance to Aboyne Castle, Deeside, came off on the 8th inst. with great success. Among those on the ground were Prince Leopold, the Marquis and Marchioness of Huntly and a party from Aboyne Castle, Sir William Forbes, of Craigievan, Sir W. Stafford, Mr. W. Cunliffe Brooks, of Glentanner, M.P., and representatives of the leading families of the district.

A gold watch was presented on Thursday, the 9th inst., at the Swedish and Norwegian Consulate in Cardiff to Captain Mortensor, of the Norwegian barque Grid, for bravery at sea. The vessel was laden with corn and bound from Richmond to Falmouth, when she ran into an iceberg. The captain remained by the ship, and at length succeeded in bringing her to England, notwithstanding great difficulty.

The winter session of the Charterhouse Science and Art School and Literary Institute, the largest science school in the United Kingdom, will, under the continued presidency of the Rev. J. Rodgers (vice-chairman of the London School Board), commence on Saturday, Sept. 25. During the late session about 800 students availed themselves of the privileges afforded by this institution, and of this number nearly 600 presented themselves for examination, and were successful in obtaining 140 Queen's prizes, awarded by the Science and Art Department of South Kensington.

A Leather Trades Exhibition, which is to last a week, was opened at the Agricultural Hall, Islington, on Wednesday morning, the object being to give the public as practical an idea as possible of an article which is used in close upon 300 industries, and in the preparation and manufacture of which considerably over 300,000 of our workpeople are employed.

The weekly return of metropolitan pauperism shows that the total number of paupers on the last day of the first week in September was 82,140, of whom 45,916 were in workhouses and 36,224 received outdoor relief. Compared with the corresponding week in the year 1879, these figures show an increase of 571. The number of vagrants relieved on the last day of the week was 550, of whom 419 were men, 115 women, and 16 children under sixteen.

The statute, which received the Royal Assent on the day of the prorogation, to amend the laws relating to the protection of wild birds, contains the names of as many as 85 wild birds, including the cuckoo, nightingale, and snipe. The object of this Act, which takes effect from Jan. 1, is to protect wild birds in the United Kingdom during the breeding season, and provides penalties for shooting and taking wild birds between March 1 and Aug. 1 in any year.

The present free library at Cardiff having become inadequate for the growing requirements of the rapidly extending borough, the Corporation has resolved to build a handsome block, comprising a free library and the museum and art schools in Trinity-street. Plans have been prepared by Messrs. James Seward and Thomas, and on Monday the Town Council resolved to apply to the Treasury for a loan of £10,000 for the new buildings, the first stone of which is to be laid next month.

The report of the Commissioners of the Patriotic Fund to the Queen for the year 1880 was issued yesterday week. The income received up to Dec. 31, 1879, was £2,968,000. The sums appropriated were as follows:—£668,000 in the purchase of annuities, £1,518,500 to widows and orphans, £46,000 in the purchase of nominations to schools and colleges, £218,100 to the Royal Victoria Patriotic Asylum for girls, and £61,200 for boys. The cost of management is set down at £96,100.

The Army and Navy Gazette states that a distinguished service reward of £100 per annum has been granted by the Government of India to Major-General Sir F. R. Roberts, V.C., K.C.B., in recognition of his services in Afghanistan. The same paper says that the appointment of Inspector-General of Artillery in India, vacated by the transfer of Colonel C. G. Arbuthnot, C.B., R.A., to the Horse Guards, as Deputy-Adjutant-General, has been given to Colonel G. Leslie, R.A.

The Architectural Association have arranged for a number of their members and friends to make a tour in Lombardy during the autumn. Visits will be paid to Turin, Milan, Bergamo, Brescia, Cremona, Mantua, Pavia, and other places notable for objects of architectural interest. Accompanying the party will be three or four distinguished art-students who, being in training at the National Art Schools, South Kensington, have been selected by the Lords of the Committee of Council to undertake this journey as a part of their course of instruction.

There are eleven sections in the Ground Game Act which recites that it is expedient in the interest of good husbandry, and for the better security for the capital and labour invested by the occupiers of land in the cultivation of the soil, that further provision should be made to enable such occupiers to protect their crops from injury and loss by "ground game," which is explained as meaning "hares and rabbits." The occupier is to have the right, inseparable from his occupation, to kill ground game concurrently with any other person entitled to kill such on land in his occupation.

The Institut de Droit International concluded its session at Oxford yesterday week. Some very complete reports on the question of material rights with regard to maritime seizures, and that of the application to Eastern nations of European laws, were presented by Sir Travers Twiss and M. Bulmerincq. Sir Travers Twiss also gave an account of the labours of the Association for the codification and reform of the rights of nations. It was resolved that the next meeting of the Institute, to be held in 1881, shall take place in Italy, probably at Turin.

Last month the officers of the Fishmongers' Company seized at Billingsgate Market, as unfit for human food, 183 tons of fish, of which 100 tons had arrived by land and 83 by water. The single fish numbered 220,000, and included 5 brill, 57 coalfish, 150 cod, 10 crabs, 500 dabs, 176 dorsets, 700 flounders, 33,510 haddocks, 34 hake, 79,151 herrings, 4479 lobsters, 586 mackerel, 800 mullets, 19,646 plaice, 3500 roach, 1 salmon, 1289 skate, 4800 smelts, 10 trout, 76 turbot, and 70,600 whiting; and, in addition, there were seized 4 bushels of cockles, 1677 lb. of eels, 1024 bags of mussels, and 14 of oysters, 666 bushels of periwinkles, one kit of pickled salmon, 2675 gallons of shrimps, 200 bushels of whelks, and 77 quarts of whitebait.

The thirteenth annual Trades Union Congress of Great Britain began its sittings in Dublin on Monday, under the presidency of Mr. Slatter, secretary of the Typographical Association of England. On Tuesday Mr. Murphy, president, gave the opening address. He observed that one of the results of the meeting would be the formation of a Trades Council in Dublin, which was not intended to be an aggressive institution. He then invited attention to a reform of the Jury Laws and the direct representation of labour in Parliament, recommending that energy should be concentrated on returning labour representatives for Irish cities. The report of the Parliamentary Committee was adopted. A resolution in favour of developing the Employers' Liability Act so as to give a workman compensation like any member of the general public was carried, and, after some other business, the congress adjourned.

Shortly after ten o'clock last Saturday night a train from Waterloo to Hampton Court came in collision with an empty engine which was standing at some little distance westward of the Vauxhall station of the London and South-Western Railway. Five persons were killed and upwards of forty injured. The killed are—Mr. George Dale, of High-street, Kingston; Mr. John Lee, of Savile Lodge, Surbiton; Mr. John Ramsay, of 7, Champion-terrace, St. Anne's, Wandsworth; Mr. Walter P. Roberts, of 1, Copse Villa, St. John's-hill, Wandsworth; and Henry Arnott, fireman of the train. Major Marindin, R.E., Inspector of Railways, has been appointed to inquire into the fatal accident, and an inquest is being held on those who were killed.—The Coroner's inquiry into the accident to the Flying Scotchman, near Marshall Meadows, on Aug. 10 last, by which three persons lost their lives, was on Monday brought to a conclusion, the jury finding that the circumstance was accidental.—It is reported that an attempt was on Monday morning made, near Bushey Station, to blow up the early express down train, which leaves Euston at 5.15 a.m. A quantity of dynamite was, it is stated, placed on the line, the fact remaining undiscovered for two hours after the train had passed over the metals. The train appears to have owed its safety to the "jar" of the train having shaken the exploding apparatus off the line.

ISLANDS OF THE SOUTH INDIAN OCEAN

The recent cruise of H.M.S. Comus in search of the crews who might have been landed from some missing vessels—the Knowsley Hall and others, which are supposed to have been shipwrecked among the groups of uninhabited islands in the South Indian Ocean—was noticed some weeks ago. We have since been favoured by Captain J. W. East, R.N., with a set of interesting sketches of those islands, which are now presented to our readers.

The principal groups of islands situated in that region of the globe, all between the 35th and 55th degrees of South latitude, and between the 35th and 80th degrees of East longitude, are Prince Edward's Islands, the Crozets or Marion Islands, St. Paul's and Amsterdam Island, and Kerguelen Land.

The Crozets, which are notable from the shipwreck there of the New Zealand emigrant-ship Strathmore in 1875, will be found in about latitude 46 deg. 27 min. S., longitude 52 deg., and consist mainly of four islands, namely—Possession Island, the largest, East Island, Hog or Swine Island, and Penguin Island. They are of volcanic origin, and are quite mountainous; Possession Island has eminences rising to 5000 ft., covered with perpetual snow, the melting of which keeps the lowlands and valleys always wet. This produces deep bog, from the decomposition of the volcanic soil, but overgrown with moss and fern of the most beautiful verdure. In American Bay, in a cove named after H.M.S. Comus, when she lay there, and placed there a dépôt of provisions for the use of future shipwrecked people, the singular form of the basaltic rocks was peculiarly striking. East Island, which is distant seven miles from Possession Island, presents jagged snowy peaks 4000 ft. high, and its cliffs are precipitous, with many waterfalls, some of considerable magnitude, continually pouring over them into the sea. There are several little bays on the north and east sides of this island, where a landing is not difficult. Hog Island is only precipitous on its western side, but on the other sides descends with a more gentle slope to the sea. Its position is very incorrectly shown in the Admiralty chart, thirteen miles too far to the south and east. It is recommended that, in case of any vessels coming to grief near the Crozets, the boats should make for the east shore of Hog Island, or the north side of East Island. The former "abounds in game, so that no one need fear to be starved; the skins of the animals would afford plenty of clothing; and fuel, in the shape of oil, is in abundance, one penguin alone giving a gallon." The Kerguelen cabbage is abundant on Possession Island, and a plant called red root, on which human beings "could not only exist, but get fat." There is a small white bird called the "snowdrop," about the size of a pigeon, which is very good eating. The chase of the sea-elephant on the Crozet Islands has been abandoned as unprofitable, but large numbers of these huge animals were seen by the officers of the Comus. Their tongues, fins, and kidneys were found excellent to eat. Penguin Island, one of the same group, is a mass of volcanic matter, with peaks of 1200 ft., thrown up into a variety of strange forms and shapes; there is not the slightest appearance of a beach, but deep water all round it. The rocks upon which the Strathmore was wrecked five years ago, called the Twelve Apostles, are seven miles north-east of Possession Island; they consist of two large rocks, each a mile or mile and a half long, about 900 ft. high, and several detached pinnacled rocks, from 50 ft. to 400 ft. high, with deep channels between them, besides a few outlying rocks to the south-west. It is not difficult to land upon them in times of smooth water.

Kerguelen Land, which was one of the places chosen for an astronomical expedition to observe the Transit of Venus, with a view to determine the sun's distance from our earth, in the year 1874, is a large island, one hundred miles long and fifty miles broad, in latitude 49 deg. 54 min. south of the Equator, longitude 70 deg. 12 min. east of Greenwich. It has an area of 1318 square miles, and is not of volcanic formation, but of primary rock, with carboniferous strata. A high range of mountains runs through the length of the island from north-west to south-east. Its loftiest summit, Mount Ross, has an altitude of 6700 ft., with a second top, as shown in our illustration, somewhat lower. We invite attention to the view of Christmas Harbour—one taken from the west end, showing the very remarkable natural arch formed by a detached fragment of rock, at the east end of Mount Haverger, which is a curious feature in the southern coast of that harbour. The remaining Kerguelen sketch is one of Gazelle Basin, in Stromwetter Harbour.

The last place visited by H.M.S. Comus in quest of any people who might need relief was St. Paul's Island, which lies considerably more to the north, in latitude 38 deg. 43 min. below the Equator, and east longitude 77 deg. 38 min., nearly half-way between the Cape of Good Hope and Cape Leeuwin, the south-westerly point of Australia. Amsterdam Island is at no great distance from St. Paul's to the southward. It will be remembered that the unlucky Admiralty transport-ship Megara, which broke down at sea a few years ago, left her remains on St. Paul's Island. This place is much frequented by various parties of fishermen. A French schooner from the Isle of Bourbon, with twenty-nine men so employed, was met here by the Comus, which supplied them with bread, sugar, and tobacco. The British corvette, having then completed her task of examining the southern islands and looking for shipwrecked crews, no traces of any such being anywhere found, made the best of her way to Singapore.

With regard to Amsterdam Island, we last week published a small map or plan of it, with a sketch of one of the huts occasionally inhabited by the French fishermen, which were drawn by the officers of H.M.S. Raleigh, accompanied by their report of a visit to that island. An interesting narrative of the wreck of the barque Meridian, in August, 1853, on her voyage with passengers from London to Sydney, was written by the late Mr. A. J. P. Lutwyche, afterwards Attorney-General of New South Wales, and one of the Judges in Queensland. It was published at the Mauritius in the French language, and at Sydney in the following year; and one of his friends has kindly lent us a copy for perusal. The shipwrecked party, consisting of eighty-four passengers, men, women, and children, and a crew of about twenty, were twelve days on the island, with scanty means of shelter and subsistence. They were rescued, on Sept. 5, by an American barque, the Monmouth, under command of Captain Ludlow, who carried them safely to the island of Mauritius, where they were very kindly treated. Mr. Lutwyche was formerly well known at the Bar and on the Press in London, and gained a good social position in the Australian colonies.

Yesterday week the Balloon Society held a meeting at which it was resolved to award a silver medal to each of the five aeronauts engaged in the late balloon contest, as the distances traversed were so nearly alike that it was impossible fairly to bestow the medal on one aeronaut alone. It was also resolved to arrange for another contest, with the view of determining the strength and direction of air currents at different altitudes.

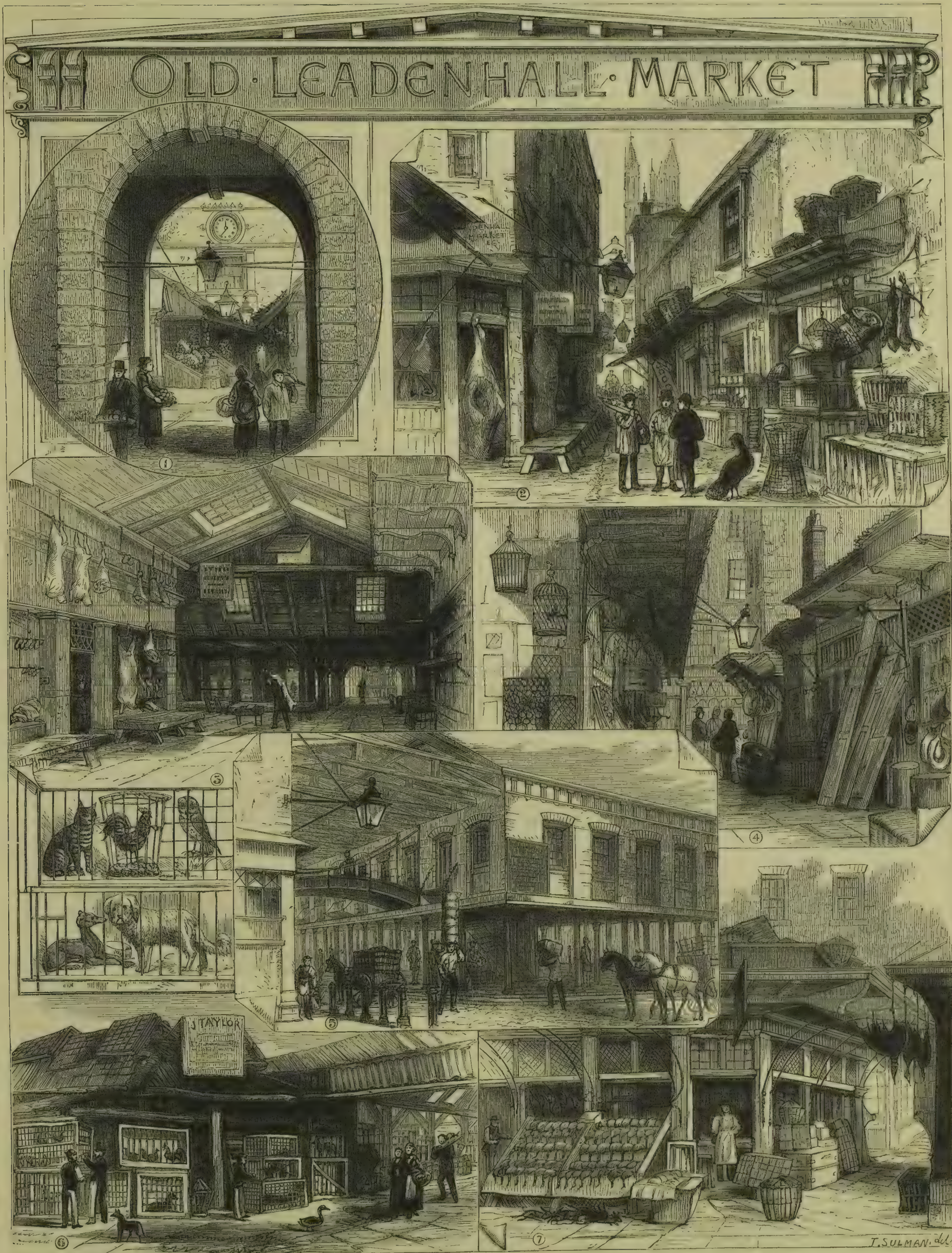


1. Hog Island.
2. Comus Cove, American Bay, Possession Island.
3. East Island.
4. Penguin Island.

5. Twelve Apostles.
6. Gazelle Basin, Kerguelen Island.
7. Christmas Harbour, Kerguelen.

8. Mount Ross, Kerguelen.
9. Possession Island.
10. St. Paul's Island.

ISLANDS IN THE SOUTH INDIAN OCEAN VISITED BY H.M.S. COMUS IN SEARCH OF SHIPWRECKED CREWS.—SEE PRECEDING PAGE.



1. Entrance from Gracechurch-street. 2. Half Moon-passage. 3. The Shambles. 4. Half Moon-corner. 5. The Old Leather Market. 6. Live Stock-alley. 7. Old Poulterer's Shop.

OLD LEADENHALL MARKET.—SEE NEXT PAGE.



MOTHERLESS-EASEDALE TARN, WESTMORLAND.

FROM THE PICTURE BY BASIL BRADLEY.

NEW BOOKS.

Insanity in some form, more or less virulent, is commonly believed to lurk in the system of every human being; and a perusal, however slight, of *Literary Frivolities, Fancies, Follies, and Frolics*: by William T. Dobson (Chatto and Windus), a volume of "The Mayfair Library," will tend to encourage the belief that "It is a mad world, my masters." A gentleman has, at much cost of time and trouble, collected and published numerous, not to say innumerable, specimens of the various ways in which harmless lunatics have from a very early date exercised their ingenuity in the production of utterly useless, though not always uninteresting or unamusing, literary monstrosities or curiosities, or whatever is the proper name for them. Alliterative verses, bouts-rimés, lipograms, macaronics, chronograms, echo-verses, Jesuitical verses, monosyllabic verses, nonsense verses, centos, anagrams, and palindromes have, each in turn, some words of comment and explanation devoted to them, accompanied by a liberal supply of examples. There are also some observations concerning "figurate or shaped poems," that is, poems in which the lines are so arranged that the form of a decanter, or wine-glass, or some other object is presented to the eye, and concerning "prose poems," that is, prose so put together, accidentally to all appearance, as to run of itself into metrical lines, if anybody should take the trouble of splitting it up; and illustrative instances are provided. Of course alliteration is a perfectly legitimate and occasionally very powerful device, much to be commended sometimes as an aid in the construction of prose or verse; but to string together a quantity of either prose or verse with the sole or chief object of showing how far the alliterative hobby can be ridden is an exercise worthy of Bedlam. Something may be said, no doubt, in favour of bouts-rimés as a pastime when an evening has to be got through; and no doubt some very clever verses, worthy of being preserved in a book, are now and then thrown off under such circumstances. It is a question, however, whether in the book under consideration the author has been very happy in his selection, and whether his selection might not with advantage have been considerably curtailed. As for anagrams, and all the rest of it, the "Prisoner of Chillon" or another in like case, with time hanging heavy on the manacled hands, might be excused for attempting to beguile the leaden hours in torturing or dislocating an innocent word; but it is almost incomprehensible that reasonable beings, under no sort of restraint or constraint, should perform, or commemorate, or derive any gratification from such puerile feats of wasted ingenuity. Yet it is quite certain that there have been thousands of not only intelligent, but grave and learned, persons who have taken pride as well as pleasure in the accomplishment of such exploits, and that there are tens of thousands who will be greatly entertained, if not roused to emulation, by the pretty little volume consecrated to the commemoration and to illustrative samples of those exploits. How ready a weapon the lover of alliteration offers to the scorner may be gathered from the wound inflicted upon Rogers, who, having written

So up the tide of time I turn my sail,

was ruthlessly parodied with

So up the tide of time I turn my tail.

The lipogram proper is a form of verse in which a certain letter is designedly omitted all through, and is, perhaps, the most idiotic of all "literary frivolities," unless anybody not an idiot can see anything either clever or funny in producing a set of verses remarkable for nothing but the complete exclusion of some particular vowel or consonant. Everybody knows the game of "bouts-rimés;" but when Horace Walpole himself, having the rhymes "brook," "crook," "why," and "I" given, could produce nothing better than—

I sit with my toes in a brook,
If anyone asks me for why,
I lift them a rap with my crook,
'Tis sentiment kills me, says I.

The game scarcely seems to be worth the candle. A very amusing story is told about the anagram, a device whereby a word or sentence is transformed, by transposition of the letters, into something totally different, so that a certain Dame Eleanor Davies, who, finding that her name and title could be anagrammatised into "Never see (so) mad a ladie," was struck with despondency, and renounced the prophetic powers she had been induced to claim by her own imperfect anagrammatisation of "Eleanor Davies" into "Reveal, O Daniel!" taking a little liberty with an *l* and an *s*. The cento, a patchwork made up of fragments pieced together, so as to form a new composition, not necessarily nonsensical, from the works of an author or of several authors, has sometimes been turned to infamous account, as, for instance, by that reputed Christian, Ausonius, who has the discredit of having employed it for the purpose of perverting Virgil's "pure muse" into a tissue of obscenities; a fact which speaks volumes in condemnation of such "literary frolics." Quite enough has been said to let the reader understand what kind of little book is that which may now be dismissed with the final acknowledgment that it is provided with an index, a very useful addition, and that it is undoubtedly a bright, amusing, and not altogether uninteresting publication.

More brilliancy of style and a more enthusiastic tone might have been expected in the treatment of so inspiring a subject as that of *Byron*, by John Nichol (Macmillan and Co.), a volume belonging to the series of "English Men of Letters," edited by Mr. John Morley. Professor Nichol has performed his task as if it were a task; admirably so far as the conveyance of much information within a small compass is concerned, and sagaciously as far as regards appreciation of personal character and poetical merit, but almost as dispassionately as if he were lecturing upon a fossilised beetle, and almost as negligently, as regards diction and the arrangement of sentences, as if he were writing a business-like letter to a familiar friend. There is no intention of insinuating that the English, such as it is, is not perfectly good, or that the constructions are grammatically faulty; but surely the mere remembrance of Byron's genius ought to put his biographers and commentators upon their mettle, kindle a little fire in their brain, and cause them to rise, as they write, a little above their level best. However, the Professor has evidently taken pains to give an accurate and comprehensive account of the noble poet's descent, career, merits and demerits, both as a man and a "maker;" and that, after all, was the main purpose of his undertaking. No poet, perhaps, since the world began, has been so differently estimated by different judges and at different periods as Byron; for a while he was exalted to the very top of Parnassus, and anon he was sent down to the bottom of his class, as a school-boy would say. It seems to have been reserved for our age to assign him his proper place; a very high one, among the genuine bards. Who can think lightly of him in whom Shelley acknowledged a master? Not Professor Nichol, certainly; and yet, with all his evident appreciation, the Professor can scarcely be considered happy when he says that Byron was "more nearly a dwarf Shakspeare than a giant Pope." What have we to do with either Shakspeare

or Pope in our consideration of Byron? He was no dwarf-likeness of anybody; he was *sui generis*; and the best proof of this is that, though he would fain have moulded himself upon the model of his idol, Pope, he simply could not do it. He could only speak as he was moved; sometimes ungrammatically, often uncouthly, but nearly always, unless he deliberately hampered himself, in unmistakable poetry, bearing his own peculiar brand.

Exuberant spirits, which sometimes do duty very well indeed for wit and humour, and which, at any rate, invest with liveliness the commonest details of the most uneventful narrative, are the main characteristics of *Five Weeks in Iceland*: by C. A. De Fonblanque (Richard Bentley and Son), a volume describing how a young lady, in company with some friends, of both sexes, paid a visit to Iceland and came away again. They were sometimes cold and sometimes hot; they roughed it a good deal, sleeping, as well as eating and drinking, not only in queer houses and sheds, but in uncomfortable churches amid disagreeable smells; they had guides who were either "stuck up" or idiotic, and ponies that sometimes would go and sometimes wouldn't go, and occasionally kicked and bucked and jolted and went on just as other ponies in other places besides Iceland have been known to do; they travelled many scores, perhaps hundreds, of miles, and made pleasant and unpleasant acquaintances, including a lady, "the wife of a highly respectable Icelandic," which lady appears to have "made a good thing of them" by selling them certain articles at more than the market-price on pretence of saving the travellers "the trouble of going to the shop;" they bathed in cold rivers and hot springs; they saw geysers, of which the world in general has heard before now; and once they lost their way and had to pass the night in a sort of out-house. This was the most notable adventure they met with, though everything else, or at any rate, a great deal else, that they did, or said, or saw, or felt, is related with much circumstance. There are some amusing passages, and some pretty pieces of writing; but the writer, on the whole, seems to have a low opinion of Iceland, and to have found very little to admire or enjoy there. The narrative bristles with the names of persons, Icelanders and others; and it does not appear to have occurred to the writer that, if the real names have been given, a deed of questionable taste may have been committed. Some people object to being "put into a book" at all; and they object still more, no doubt, when themselves or their countrymen or their country, or all these, are made fun of or unfavourably criticised. And English is not an altogether unread or unknown language in Iceland. The impression left upon the mind by the book is that Iceland may be a dreary place for English travellers to go to; but that an irruption of English travellers must be an awful nuisance to the poor Icelanders.

OLD LEADENHALL MARKET.

The partial demolition of the buildings, sheds, and stalls in this ancient place of business, with a view to the erection of a new and more commodious market-house, was commenced some weeks ago. A large space is already cleared of that portion, towards the north side, which was known as the Old Leather and Hide Market, and the Old Meat Market, but which has been occupied by a mixture of different provision trades. The Poultry Market, or so much of it as is comprised within one large covered space, to the south of the central alley entered from Gracechurch-street, will not be disturbed till after the first-mentioned part is rebuilt. One of the principal salesmen there has, nevertheless, already put up a board near his stalls bearing the inscription, "Last Year of Old Leadenhall Market, Established 1345, by Edward III." We find it recorded, however, that it was in 1479 that Simon Eyre erected a "granary," which he gave to the Corporation of the City of London, on the site of the ancient manor-house of Leadenhall; and he also built a chapel, adjacent to this granary or corn-market. The hall there was some time afterwards used as a place for keeping the weapons of military service belonging to the City Companies and other public stores. We are told that the scales and beams for weighing meal, wool, and various commodities brought for sale, were long to be seen there; and in the upper lofts of the building were painted the patterns of certain artistic devices for City pageants. This was the state of the edifice called Leadenhall, in the sixteenth century; as described by the Elizabethan Antiquary, John Stow; and it is mentioned in 1726, by Chamberlayne, as "a noble ancient building." But, a very few years later, the original structure was removed, and gave place to the low-roofed sheds and small houses, with a labyrinth, of intersecting passages, that extended over a large space between Gracechurch-street, Leadenhall-street, and Lime-street, having entrances from all three sides. The Green Yard, one part of this ground, had once been the garden of a stately mansion, belonging to Sir Hugh Neville in 1309, when this was the most aristocratic part of town. In the time of Charles II. we find the Spanish Ambassador visiting Leadenhall Market, and expressing to the King his wonder at the vast quantity of meat sold there. Newgate Market was then its only rival; but Clare Market, Hungerford Market, and Newport Market were soon afterwards established for the accommodation of the western parts of London. The slaughtering of cattle in this neighbourhood, as well as at Smithfield, was complained of as a great nuisance little more than thirty years ago. Our Illustrations, of old Leadenhall Market will be recognised by everybody who has strolled through it, either as an intending customer for household use, or simply as a curious spectator. The scene in some of those narrow passages, with open shops at each end, under projecting eaves and pent-houses constructed of massive woodwork, might remind one of the descriptions of an Eastern Bazaar. Its picturesque aspect is enhanced by the working costume of the people attending these shops, the blouses, aprons, and caps, worn for convenience and cleanliness, as well as by the profuse display of animals and vegetables; of the former, both living and dead. All kinds of poultry, feathered game, hares and rabbits, carcasses of deer, and some fish, with bacon and sausages; live cocks and hens, pheasants, peacocks, ducks and geese; lap-dogs and fancy terriers; canaries, larks, and other singing-birds are here offered for sale. There are many greengrocers' and fruiterers' stalls, besides those of numerous other trades, such as the cheesemonger's and buttermilk's, oddly mingled in the older part of the market, which is rapidly disappearing. In the remaining Poultry Market properly so called, this mixture of diverse merchandise will not be observed.

The *Boy's Newspaper*, an excellently arranged penny weekly paper, edited by Mr. Thomas Archer, made its first appearance on Wednesday. News and information—social, political, and sporting—and of all kinds in which boys take an interest, are attractively set forth; and the first number is highly creditable to the enterprising firm of Cassell, Potter, and Galpin, under whose auspices the periodical has been issued.

The Christmas Number of *The Quiver* for 1880 will be entitled "The Golden Mark."

"SALLET-HERBES."

That "a sallet, in hot weather, is not amiss to cool a man's stomach," we have the authority of the renowned Jack Cade, and the term, as we know, is an old one. Thus, we find, in "All's Well That Ends Well," that Lafen says, addressing the Countess, "'twas a good lady: we may pick a thousand sallets, ere we light on such another herb;" to which the Clown, replies, "Indeed, Sir, she was the sweet marjoram of the sallet, or rather the herb of grace; and we have the term elsewhere, in this allusion—"my sallet days, when I was green in judgment." Dryden, too, alludes to salads—"some coarse cold salad;" "happy old Coricynan's fruits and salads;" as does Ben Jonson, also, in his "Alchemist," where Sir Epicure Mamworm proposes, with his prospect of wealth, to give up salads—"I myself will have the beards of barbels served, instead of sallads." Like allusions by others might be readily cited. With country people—who believe in salads most "at spring and fall"—namely, April and September—the old term "sallet" is still in use, and an inclusive term it is, embracing weeds and herbs; as it does, indeed, elsewhere. Mrs. Scott Stevenson—in "Our Home in Cyprus"—says that Cyprus weeds make good salads, wild geranium serves for spinach, and that thistles, when cooked, are very like sea kale—that "cale" which, as asparagus, too, as is mentioned by Pliny, was salted down by the Romans for the long voyages they made. Their asparagus, though, was no doubt the wild sort, which, at Bath and Bristol, is still sold freely in the months of May and June.

With us, however, the general use of salads is a more modern custom, as Ray, in his "Tour of Europe"—the date of which was 1663—notes that the Italians used several herbs for salads which were not then thus used in England; and, speaking of vegetables, he instances "selleri"—though he was quite wrong there, as it was grown largely at Sandwich, in the reign of Elizabeth—and goes on to say that their endive excelled even the lettuce itself, which, amongst things most cooling, has so long held sway, as it did in the days of Horace. "*Nam lactuca innatat acri, post vinum stomacho*," a property also belonging to parsley, as lovers of good wine know, and which Pliny recognised; as also, that it gave a good odour to the body. "*Apium; hoc arceri ebrietatem, bonumque corpori odorem conferri dicit*." Parsley was used for garlands, too, as we read in Virgil, "*Apium igitur inter coronarias herbas memorandum est*;" and in Horace, too, "*Est in horto, Phylli neetendis apium coronis*." That salad-eating and the use of vegetables was in vogue with our Saxon ancestors, we may infer from the names given by them to two of the months—"sprout-calc" to February, and "diet and weed" month to June. Vegetables were, in fact, in those days a staple form of diet, as Isaac Walton knew, as we find by Piscator, who, after alluding to "those wiser countries that feed on herbs, salads, and fish," proposes to make a "brave breakfast, with a piece of powdered beef and a radish or two;" and in that form of diet beans had a place, nearly 2000 years ago, for we find Horace writing thus—"O quando faba Pythagoræ cognata, simulque uncta satis pingui ponetur oluscula lardo?" Bean-feasts are hence an ancient institution. The greatest bean-eaters were the Italians, as they still continue; but the Egyptians did not like them, for "they are sown in no part of Egypt," says Herodotus. "Neither will the inhabitants eat them, boiled or raw."

To return, however, to our special subject, some of the best salads grow wild, as the gypsies know. Thus, dock and dandelion, sorrel and land-cress, which are excellent when eaten between sliced buttered bread. But not only are the former—dock and dandelion—eaten by gypsies and by country people, but they are grown freely in Paris, in a succession of crops, for the Continental markets. We grew them, too, for Covent Garden in 1851, when, as was the case more recently during the siege of Paris, so many of the French were here. They are also grown, for the same purpose, at that "hothouse of France," that "Town of Palms," Hyères. As a salad the spring wood-sorrel, called "alcluya" in Spain and Italy, and which makes a fish-sauce in France, is, as is the summer field dock-sorrel, and the sheep's-sorrel, too, in common use in Lapland, where Linnæus says the natives make that and angelica their chief green food. Good salads are made of green leaves and shoots, and of common weeds as well. Thus in the young tops and leaves of the blackberry we have that salad which was so common at the tables of the Greeks, who mixed with their lettuce, as did the Romans, too, the leaves of the mallow and marigold, as the people do still, in Egypt, China, Syria, and Hindostan; and those leaves were commended by Horace, for their healthful properties, but with this proviso, that they were best "when boiled," like the leaves and shoots of the patience dock, which thus are used by the Manchester poor, and the leaves of the nettle, which are eaten by the Swedes, and the Irish, and by the English, too, as they were in the days of Pope—"His court with nettles and with cresses stor'd, with soups unbought, and sallads, blessed his board."

In France, nasturtium leaves and shoots are used in salads, as also whitleaf and sweet basil, and the leaves of some kinds of the prince's feather, which in the East Indies they use as spinach; while on the Malabar coast, hibiscus leaves, called there "red sorrel," furnish a welcome salad. In our own hop counties, hop shoots are eaten, as the young shoots of the willow herbs are in Kamshatka, which, when boiled, are like asparagus, a flavour possessed by the tall sea holly, of which the Swedes, who eat the lesser celandine leaves, are fond; and by the stems of that kind of goosefoot we know as "the good King Harry," which, together with the leaves, are eaten in Lincolnshire, where it is grown as a salad. In the wild treacle mustard, the rough-leaved comfrey, and the golden saxifrage, we have three others; and the latter, under the name of "cresson de roche," furnishes a salad to the people in the Vosges. The leaves of Venus's comb formed at one time a salad for the Greeks; and the young green shoots of the bladder campion, blanched to correct their bitterness, are eaten in Zante; and in many of the islands in the Mediterranean they are still in common use. The leaves of the syringa, as also the burnet—to which Shakspeare alludes, "the freckled cowslip, burnet, and green clover"—are used in salads, when cucumbers are scarce, and their flavour is wanted. Sea-beet leaves, chervil, and purslane, too, as also the succulent leaves of the common scurvy-grass, and wood-sage—which is eaten with bread and butter—and the leaves of the cardamine and swine's-cress leaves are all good salads, and in use with many people. Then there is the leaf of the lamb's-lettuce, monk's-salad, as the French call it, or corn-salad, as we term it—"corn-salad is an herb," says Mortimer, in his "Husbandry," "whose top leaves are a sallet of themselves"—which was the old "white pot-herb" of our ancestors, that was in use in Elizabeth's time, as we know by Gerard. On the Continent, where borage is a salad, the large, showy leaves of the Judas-tree are eaten, as are those of the Canadian species, by the settlers in the woods; and by the rustics in this country the young leaves of the sow-thistle are much enjoyed.

Such are a few of the things which serve our turn for salads; but the one that is most in use is the well-known watercress.

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THE LATE BRIGADIER-GENERAL H. F. BROOKE.

The death of this distinguished officer, who was killed in the sortie of the garrison from Candahar on the 16th inst., has been mentioned in our news of the Afghan War. He obtained his first commission in June, 1854. He landed with the 48th Regiment in the Crimea on April 21, 1855. He served at the siege and fall of Sebastopol, for which he received the medal with clasp and Turkish medal. He also served throughout the campaign of 1860 in China, as aide-de-camp to Sir Robert Napier, and was present at the actions of Sinho and Tan-Khu, the assault of the Taku Forts (severely wounded), and the final advance on and surrender of Peking. For this service he was promoted to the brevet rank of Major, and received a medal with two clasps. He was Brigade Major in Bengal from April, 1863, to January, 1865; Assistant Adjutant-General to April, 1866; and again from 1872 to 1876; Deputy Adjutant-General in 1876 and 1877; and Adjutant-General at Bombay from November in that year. He obtained the brevet rank of Colonel in February, 1877. He was in command of the 2nd Infantry Brigade at Candahar, having, at the second outbreak of the Afghan War, proceeded from Bombay, where he was Adjutant-General.

Brigadier-General Henry F. Brooke was forty-four years of age. He was the eldest son of Mr. George Brooke and Lady Arabella Brooke, of Ash-brooke, Brookeborough, in the county of Fermanagh. He is the first General Officer for twenty-two years past who has been killed in action. This was while he was endeavouring to carry off a wounded brother officer, under a heavy fire of the enemy. On July 22, when General Brooke was returning from the Argandab Valley up the Murcha Kotal, accompanied by Major Adam, with eight troopers of the Poona Horse he was fired upon by some men from behind the rocks. The General, Major Adam, and half the men dismounted, and, each taking a carbine, slowly ascended the pass, returning the fire of their assailants. They thus forced their way through the Kotal, driving the enemy up the hillside. A company of the 4th Rifles, in the meantime, arrived and relieved the General. Search was made, but the ruffians escaped. General Brooke was twice fired on by assassins in Candahar, but on each occasion escaped unhurt. It was by him, as we now learn from a letter which has reached England this week, that the fugitive remnant of General Burrows's brigade, when it approached Candahar after its defeat at Khushik-i-Nakhud, on July 27, was met at Kokoran, with a small force hastily collected from the garrison, and was protected and assisted to get into the citadel in safety. "Lucky it was he did so," says the letter referred to. "Half a mile from Candahar we had to begin our fighting, and without supports or communications fought our way to Kokoran, some nine miles. Awful were the sights we met on the way." The details of this memorable action, which may perhaps have saved Candahar as well as the lives of the defeated British troops, will probably be supplied by General Primrose's despatches, hereafter to be published. In



THE LATE BRIGADIER-GENERAL H. F. BROOKE, KILLED IN A SORTIE FROM KANDAHAR, AUG. 16.

the meantime, the value of General Brooke's services at Candahar, to the day of his death, must already be made apparent.

The portrait is from a photograph by Bourne and Shepherd, of India.

MILITARY PONTOON DISASTER IN SPAIN.

Our Illustration, in last week's paper, of the exercises of the Royal Engineers, at Runnymede, in the operation of constructing a pontoon bridge across the Thames, has made the non-military reader somewhat better acquainted with the use

of such an apparatus. The melancholy subject of an illustration now presented is the disaster that was also mentioned in our last as having taken place on the river Ebro, near Logrono, in Spain, where the upsetting of a pontoon raft cost more than a hundred soldiers' lives. The particulars at first reported were not quite exact. An official statement informs us that a battalion of infantry, numbering 275 officers and soldiers, had been ordered, in the programme of military manœuvres, to cross the river on a raft made of pontoons. The raft was being moved slowly towards the Navarre bank. The band continued playing, and the soldiers, mostly young lads of the last conscription, began to keep time with their feet, despite the warnings of their officers. The result was that very soon the raft began to roll ominously. The men became afraid, and when they saw the water splash over the sides and the bottom of the raft, they were not easy to control. The raft gave a lurch forwards and another aft; the soldiers rushed forwards and capsized it. The people on both banks witnessed this accident with intense anxiety. When the first moment of panic was over, they hastened to assist the men who were struggling for life in the deep and rapid stream. Barges were manned, and everything that the soldiers could hold on to was thrown into the river. Planks, rafters, casks served to save more than one life, and some civilians stripped and swam boldly to rescue the soldiers. Such among them as knew how to swim assisted their comrades, and the Colonel, badly hurt, was saved by a sapper and bandsman. Here and there, eight or ten men were just seen for a moment clinging to one another, and then they disappeared. Eleven officers and ninety-seven men were drowned, while the Colonel, twelve officers, and a hundred soldiers were saved. The bodies recovered were buried in separate tombs. The garrison of Logrono paid their late comrades military honours at the interment; and all the inhabitants and the local clergy attended the funeral. The Spanish Government has authorised a subscription for the victims. The King has given £100, and the Queen and Princess £700.

Yesterday week the New Savings Bank Act was promulgated. After Nov. 20 the rate of interest to trustees of savings banks is to be reduced to £3 per cent, and to depositors not to exceed £2 15s.

From Nov. 1 next, when the new law comes into operation, any deposit with a trustee or Post-Office savings bank, or any part of a deposit, not being less than £10, may, on the request of the depositor, be invested by the savings bank authority into any Government stock.—On the same day was issued the new Act to empower the Postmaster-General to issue money orders, in the form prescribed in the schedule, for the purpose of the transmission of small sums, and the law is extended to the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man. The new law has immediate operation, and the smallest sum to be received is one shilling, on which the poundage is "one halfpenny," and other amounts to 20s., when the poundage is to be twopence.



THE DISASTER IN SPAIN: UPSETTING OF A MILITARY PONTOON-RAFT ON THE EBRO, NEAR LOGRONO.

THE COURT.

The last week has been one of complete repose for the Queen. Her Majesty, since the close of the Session being temporarily relieved from the more onerous state duties, has enjoyed the quiet pleasure of visiting during her daily drives many of the tenantry and dependents upon the Royal estates. The Queen has also paid visits to the Misses Farquharson at Invercauld and to Mrs. Campbell at the Manse; and Colonel J. Farquharson, of Invercauld, and Miss Farquharson have dined with her Majesty. Mr. Walter Campbell has also dined with the Queen.

Earl Spencer left the castle last Saturday, having had an audience of her Majesty before leaving.

The Rev. Archibald Campbell performed Divine service at Balmoral on Sunday, which was attended by the Queen, Princess Beatrice, and Prince Leopold.

The Queen, with the Princess, has made frequent excursions, having driven to the Linn of Dee, the Derry Shiel, Loch Bulig, and various other picturesque places on Dee Side.

The Royal family circle has been augmented by the arrival of the Grand Duke of Hesse and the younger members of his family from Germany, who will make a long stay with her Majesty in the Highlands.

Prince Leopold was present at the Aboyne Highland gathering last week.

The Queen has conferred the Order of the Garter on the Duke of Bedford.

Her Majesty has approved the appointment of the Earl of Aberdeen to the Lord Lieutenancy of Aberdeenshire.

The Earl of Dalhousie, Lord Sandhurst, and Lord Thurlow have been appointed Lords in Waiting.

Lord Bray has been permitted by her Majesty to hang up the sword of his elder brother, the Hon. Edmund Verney Wyatt-Edgell, who was killed at Ulundi, in the Bray Chapel at St. George's, Windsor.

THE PRINCE AND PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Prince and Princess of Wales closed their yachting season at the Isle of Wight yesterday week, when they crossed from Cowes to Portsmouth, with Princes Albert Victor and George and Princesses Louise, Victoria, and Maud of Wales, in the Osborne, on board which, at the jetty, their Royal Highnesses entertained at luncheon Rear-Admiral Foley, Admiral Superintendent of the dockyard, Admiral Clanwilliam, Captain Lord Charles Scott, of the Bacchante, and Prince Louis of Battenberg. The Prince and Princess, with their family, left shortly after for town, travelling by the South Coast Railway to Victoria, Mr. J. P. Knight, the general manager, being in attendance. Their Royal Highnesses visited the Duchess of Cambridge at St. James's Palace directly after they arrived at Marlborough House; and the Prince called upon the Grand Duke Constantine of Russia at Claridge's Hotel. In the evening the Prince and Princess took their sons to Drury Lane Theatre.

The Duchess of Teck and the Grand Duke Constantine of Russia visited their Royal Highnesses at Marlborough House on Saturday, and in the evening the Prince and Princess, with their sons, went to the Gaiety Theatre.

On Sunday their Royal Highnesses and their family attended Divine service. Prince John of Glücksburg (uncle of the Princess) arrived in the afternoon. The Prince, accompanied by Prince Louis of Battenberg, met his Royal Highness at the Charing-cross Station.

The Princess drove out with her sons on Monday morning, and in the afternoon accompanied them to the Westminster Aquarium, with Prince John of Glücksburg and Prince Louis of Battenberg. In the evening the Prince and Princess, with their sons and daughters, went to the performance of Haverly's Mastodon Minstrels, at Her Majesty's Theatre.

Prince Albert Victor and Prince George of Wales took leave of the Princess and their sisters on Tuesday, and left Marlborough House, attended by the Rev. J. N. Dalton, to join H.M.S. Bacchante (Captain Lord Charles Scott), which proceeds to Vigo, to await there the arrival of the detached squadron, under the command of Rear-Admiral the Earl of Clanwilliam. The Prince, accompanied by Prince John of Glücksburg and Prince Louis of Battenberg, went with his sons to Spithead, and proceeded in the Bacchante as far as Cowes, where, in consequence of the unsettled state of the weather, the Bacchante anchored for the night. The Prince and Prince John of Glücksburg returned to London in the evening.

The Prince and Princess, with their daughters, have gone to Abergeldie for a short stay previous to the departure of the Princess on a visit to her parents in Denmark.

Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, and the Duke of Cambridge are on a visit to the Imperial Court at Berlin.

The Grand Duke Constantine of Russia returned to Claridge's Hotel shortly after eight o'clock on Saturday morning from Glasgow, where he had been especially to inspect the Czar's yacht *Livadia* in Elder's yard. The Grand Duke visited the Royal Exchange during his short stay. Saturday being the Emperor of Russia's fête day there was the customary *Te Deum* at the Russian Chapel, Welbeck-street, Cavendish-square, which the Grand Duke attended; and afterwards visited the Prince and Princess of Wales and the Duchess of Cambridge, and dined with Prince Lobanoff at the Russian Embassy. On Sunday, Prince Louis of Battenberg visited his Imperial Highness at his hotel, and the Grand Duke dined with the Prince and Princess of Wales. His Imperial Highness left town on Monday morning by the Continental mail from Victoria en route for Paris.

Musurus Pasha, who has represented Turkey for so many years at the Court of St. James's, has just received from the Sultan the Grand Order of the Osmanie in diamonds.

It is announced that a gentleman, advanced in years, who desires that seaside accommodation for convalescent poor patients should be greatly extended during his lifetime, has placed at the disposal of the Committee of Management of the Metropolitan Convalescent Institution £6300, on condition that they at once establish a branch seaside home. The institution at present comprises a home at Walton-on-Thames for 300 adults of both sexes, and one on Kingston Hill for 150 children. Upwards of 3500 convalescent patients, many of whom have been under treatment at the different hospitals, are admitted every year free of payment. A suitable freehold site has been secured at Bexhill-on-Sea, near St. Leonards, and plans for a building capable of accommodating one hundred inmates have been prepared and approved by the board. The cost of the land, building, and furnishing complete is estimated at about £12,000. The committee of management have already entered into a contract for the erection of so much of the building as will receive fifty inmates, and they ask for funds to enable them to fit up and furnish that portion, and also to complete the rest of the building at once, thus carrying out the condition imposed by the generous donor.

THE CHURCH.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Arthy, William Robert Bridge, to be Chaplain of Henshaw's Blind Asylum and the Manchester Deaf and Dumb Institution, at Old Trafford.
Atherton, Robert Hens; Vicar of St. Matthew, Stepney.
Baker, Dr.; Prebendary of Ealdstreet in St. Paul's Cathedral.
Blackburne, S.; Rector of Beesby, Lincolnshire.
Brodrick, Francis Edward; Vicar of Farnley, Leeds.
Buckley, Joseph; Rector of Tormarton.
Egerton, Brooke de M.; Vicar of Brackley; Surrogate.
Eyre, J. R.; Vicar of St. Michael-le-Hamlet, Liverpool.
Horne, Joseph White; Vicar of St. James-the-Apostle, Islington.
Johnstone, W. M.; Rector of St. Stephen's, Twickenham.
Kyte, J. W.; Vicar of Wood Ditton with Saxon Street.
Mason, F. W. R.; Rector of Beesby; Vicar of Steep, Hampshire.
Moore, Daniel; Prebendary of Osgate in St. Paul's Cathedral.
Northmore, Thomas Welby; Vicar of Weston, Otley.
Perkins, C. M.; Rector of Sopworth and Badminton.
Rees, E. J.; Senior Chaplain to the Bishop of Bedford.
Sotheby, W. E. H.; Vicar of Holy Trinity, Hoxton.—*Guardian*.
[The notice of appointment of the Rev. C. B. Ratcliffe to the incumbency of Christ Church, Weymouth, is incorrect.]

The ancient parish church of Hordley, Ellesmere, Salop, was reopened on the 2nd inst., after restorations so extensive as almost to amount to rebuilding, under the direction of Mr. W. MacCarthy.

The late Miss Mary Windle, of Stanley Villa, St. Giles's, Oxford, has bequeathed £500 to the National Society for Promoting the Education of the Poor in the Principles of the Established Church.

The Sheffield parish church, which has been considerably enlarged and beautified at a cost of £20,000 (the whole of which amount has been obtained except £1500) will be reopened on Oct. 26, when the Archbishop of York will preach.

The Rev. H. C. White, who has been Curate of St. Paul's Cray church, Chislehurst, for the last four years, has been presented by the congregation with a purse of sovereigns as a mark of their esteem and appreciation of his ministrations.

The *Citizen* tells us that the monument of John Milton, in Cripplegate church, which since its erection in 1832, stood in an obscure corner, has during the recent restoration of the edifice been placed in a conspicuous position near the south-west door.

Her Majesty in Council has ratified a scheme for assigning sundry lands and estates in Herefordshire as endowment of the bishopric of Hereford, subject to certain liabilities and charges, and reserving the rights to coal, clay, sand, and other minerals. The total acreage thus assigned amounts to 3059.

Mr. Baring, of the London banking firm of that name, has undertaken to defray the entire cost of erecting a new parish church at Revelstoke, a village near the mouth of the river Yealm. His country seat is situate at Revelstoke. Mrs. Baring yesterday week laid the foundation-stone of the new church. Mr. J. Pier St. Aubyn, of London, is the architect.

On Monday the foundation-stone of the works for the extension of St. Andrew's Church, Buckland, Dover, was laid by Earl Granville, who referred to the great increase of church accommodation everywhere to meet the growing requirements of the population as showing that there was now more action, more energy, and more vitality in the Established Church than ever.

St. Andrew's Church, Maghull, was consecrated on the 8th inst. by the Bishop of Liverpool, and to it is attached the honour of being the first church consecrated in the new diocese.—Yesterday week the Bishop consecrated the church of St. John the Evangelist, Walton-on-the-Hill, which has been open by license for two years, the service being choral throughout.

The first interment under the new Act took place on Thursday week in the parish churchyard of Beckenham. The officiant was Mr. Samuel, Baptist minister at Penge. The service consisted of an extempore prayer, the reading of passages of Scripture, a brief address, and the singing of a hymn. Several clergymen and strangers were present. The service lasted half an hour, but no reference was made to the change in the law.

The opening of the Flower Sermon Window in the Church of St. Katherine Cree and St. James, Leadenhall-street, took place on Wednesday afternoon, when a sermon was preached by the Rev. W. M. Whittemore, D.D., Rector of the united parishes of Katherine Cree and St. James's, Aldgate. The first flower sermon was preached by the Rector in St. James's Church in 1858, and is now, since the union of the parishes, preached in this church every Whitsun Tuesday. The new stained-glass window at the east end of the church is placed there in commemoration of this flower service. The cost has been met by voluntary contributions.

On Sunday morning the Rev. Brooke Lambert, who succeeds the late Canon Miller as Vicar of Greenwich, read himself in at the parish church of St. Alphege, in the presence of a large congregation. The ceremony consisted of the reading from the pulpit, in lieu of a sermon, of the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion (the omission of which, he explained, would forfeit the benefice), declaring his assent to the same, and his intention to celebrate the sacrament according to the book of Common Prayer. In the afternoon at the same church he gave an address to a large body of children, and in the evening preached to a crowded congregation at St. Mary's, Greenwich.

Yesterday week the Archbishop of Canterbury resumed his third quadrennial visitation of his diocese. His Grace urged that it was the duty of the clergy to endeavour to imbue the minds of the laity with a love of Apostolical Christianity. He thought the tendency of the age was towards a lax view of Christian doctrine, and the substitution of a new in place of the genuine Gospel. The Primate then referred to the Biblical view of the Resurrection, contrasting it with modern views, remarking that the Gospel with the supernatural elements eliminated ceased to be the Gospel. The existing prejudice against miracles, his Grace maintained, was unreasonable, and he contended that the whole of Christianity is built on the supernatural.

The gable cross has at last been placed upon the south transept of York Minster, and thus has completed the last work of the late Dean of York. The present Dean, Canon Fleming, Dr. Monk (the organist), and the clerk of the works ascended the scaffolding on Tuesday, and the Dean said a special office as the cross was lowered into its place. The south transept of the cathedral was eight years ago in a sadly dilapidated condition; but, thanks to the late Dean Duncombe's munificence, under the able treatment of Mr. Street, it has been completely restored, the walls underpinned, the Purbeck shafting repolished or replaced, the wooden groining of the roof repaired and cleaned from paint and whitewash, so as to show the ribs and boarding, and the bosses richly gilt.

The local arrangements for the forthcoming Church Congress at Leicester are complete. A hall has been erected close to the railway station spacious enough to contain the largest audience ever yet assembled on such an occasion, and specially adapted for the purposes of the meetings. The town of Leicester is preparing to give the congress a most hearty

welcome. The Mayor, Mr. John Bennett, though a Nonconformist, is inviting the members to a conversazione to be held at the close of the proceedings. Offers of hospitality have come in from Churchmen and Nonconformists alike to an extent sufficient to provide for a considerable proportion of the expected visitors, and an abundant supply of lodgings has been secured by the committee in addition to the accommodation supplied in the ordinary way by the hotels of the neighbourhood.

At a recent meeting of the Roman Catholic Archbishops and Bishops at Maynooth College an address to the Irish people on the education question was adopted. It reminded the people that nothing had been done to change the objectionable character of the Queen's Colleges. As to the Royal University, it was complained that in it there is no recognition of the rights of Catholics to aid in teaching of Catholic youth. The right to equality must be insisted on.

The fourteenth annual report of Cardinal Manning's Westminster Diocesan Education Fund shows that there has been during the past twelvemonth an increase of 1086 in the number of the children on the books of the poor schools of that faith in the metropolis and the adjoining districts. The increase in the average daily attendance of the children is given at about 1000, and the number of those examined on the day of inspection was 480 in excess over those examined in 1879. The number of schools examined during this year was 271, out of which 176 were parochial, five Poor-Law, and four industrial schools; one was a reformatory school, nine were orphanages, and forty-six were middle and upper-class schools. The parochial schools have improved both in numbers and in the average attendance, and the pupils of several of the middle-class schools gained good places in the examinations held lately at South Kensington. It is added, as a matter of congratulation by the Roman Catholic body, that their schools in England and Wales earned during last year grants from the public purse to the extent of £112,276, being an increase of £2780 over those of the preceding year. A table of the percentage of "passes" in reading, writing, and arithmetic, annexed to the report, shows that the Roman Catholic schools stood above the Church of England, Wesleyan, British, and Board schools, both in reading and in writing, though lowest but one in arithmetic. There are five religious orders of men and twenty-four of women engaged in the teaching of the poor within the limits of Cardinal Manning's "diocese."

THE UNIVERSITIES AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The unusual occurrence of the holding of a Convocation in the vacation took place on the 8th inst. in the Sheldonian Theatre, Oxford, to confer the honorary degree of D.C.L. upon two members of the International Law Society. The Vice-Chancellor presided, and the recipients of the degree, G. Rolin Jacquemyns, the Belgian Minister of the Interior, and Professor G. Bluntschli, of Heidelberg, were presented by Mr. J. Bryce, M.P., Regius Professor of Civil Law.

The Ven. Canon Watkins, Archdeacon of Northumberland and Canon of Durham, has been appointed to the newly-established Professorship of Hebrew in the University of Durham, and Mr. W. E. Gabbett, M.A., of Lincoln College, Oxford, to a senior tutorship in the same University.

Mr. Arthur Stanley Butler, newly appointed Professor of Natural Philosophy in St. Andrew's University, was formally installed in the chair last Saturday afternoon. The ceremony took place in the large hall of the University College. Principal Shaipr presided, and administered the oath to the new Professor and invested him with the insignia of office.

A large gathering of the Roman Catholic clergy and laity took place at Woolhampton, Berks, last Monday, on the occasion of the presentation of a testimonial to the Rev. Dr. Crookall, Vicar-General and Provost of Southwark, in recognition of his devoted services during the past twenty-five years, as president to St. Mary's College, Woolhampton. After service in the chapel, an adjournment to the College took place, when the Rev. Joseph Reeks, of St. George's Cathedral, Southwark, read an address to Dr. Crookall, and handed him a cheque for £700, subscribed by old Woolhamptonians and friends. Dr. Crookall, in reply, announced his intention of devoting £500 of that amount as the nucleus of a fund for erecting new school buildings. A luncheon followed.

THE VOLUNTEERS.

The annual prize-shooting meeting of the Salisbury Rifle Volunteers took place at the range at Laverstock on Thursday and Friday last week. The Challenge Cup, given by Sir Alexander Malet, and five guineas presented by the Mayor of Salisbury, were won by Sergeant Butcher with a score of 145, Captain Hodding taking the second prize. Mr. M. H. Marsh's piece of plate was taken by Private Millard. A £5 prize given by Mr. W. H. Grenfell, M.P., was won by Corporal Crick with 38 marks; and one of a similar amount, presented by Mr. J. Passmore Edwards, M.P., fell to Sergeant Wells for 70. Quartermaster-Sergeant Harris taking the second prize with a score of 64. The seven prizes given by the officers of the corps were won by the following—viz., Corporal Rumbold, Corporal Blake, Sergeant Newbery, Corporal Masters, Private Soper, Corporal Vick, and Private Hlibberd. The special camp prize was carried off by Private Horder with a score of thirty-two, and the prizes for honorary members by Messrs. Purton and Tryhorn.

A rifle-match came off at Tottenham on the 8th inst. between teams advocating the prone and back positions respectively. Some of the best shots in the metropolis entered, firing seven rounds with the Martini-Henry at the usual Queen's first stage distances. The "back" were the winners, with an average per man of 82.93, compared with 80.58 for the prone.

A rifle tournament was held on Tuesday at the ranges of the South London Rifle Club, at Nunhead, among some of the best shots of Middlesex, the City, Surrey, Essex, and Kent.

The Registrar-General's weekly return states that last week 5602 births and 4140 deaths were registered in London and twenty-two other large towns of the United Kingdom. The mortality from all causes was at the average rate of 25 deaths annually in every 1000 persons living. The annual death-rate was 21 per 1000 in Edinburgh, 17 in Glasgow, and 35 in Dublin. In London 2463 births and 1391 deaths were registered. Allowing for increase of population, the births exceeded by 35, while the deaths were 4 below, the average numbers in the corresponding week of the last ten years. The deaths included 5 from smallpox, 7 from measles, 55 from scarlet fever, 8 from diphtheria, 19 from whooping-cough, 18 from different forms of fever, and 223 from diarrhoea. The deaths referred to diseases of the respiratory organs, which had been 124 and 152 in the two preceding weeks, declined again to 124 last week, and were 18 below the average; 68 were attributed to bronchitis, and 38 to pneumonia. Different forms of violence caused 49 deaths.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL NEWS.

SPAIN.

The Queen gave birth to a daughter on Saturday evening, and the latest bulletins report that mother and child are doing well. The event has caused great rejoicings in Madrid, and all the customary formalities were observed on the occasion. About 250 Spanish and foreign persons of rank were assembled in the ante-room adjoining the Royal bedchamber, and a few moments after the birth King Alfonso entered the room and carried the infant Princess about to let all see her.

The infant Princess was baptised on Tuesday, and received the names of Maria Mercedes Isabella. Queen Isabella acted as sponsor. All the Ministers, the principal Court and State functionaries, and the foreign Ambassadors were present at the ceremony, which was performed by the Archbishop of Toledo.

The King and Queen have received telegrams of congratulation from all the European Governments, including a very kind message of hearty felicitation from Queen Victoria and the Prince of Wales.

A Madrid telegram in the *Standard* says that the provincial elections have given a large majority to the Ministerial candidates all over Spain, but the Dynastic Liberals abstained from voting except at about fifty polls. The Democrats and Moderate Republicans were returned in towns like Valencia, Seville, Toledo, Bilbao, San Sebastian, and Vittoria. In Madrid only 7200 electors out of 42,000 went to the poll, and in the provinces abstentions were even more numerous.

An unsuccessful attempt was made yesterday week at Valladolid to assassinate the Prefect of that town.

ITALY.

The military manoeuvres in Tuscany ended on Sunday with a review on Campo di Marte, outside Florence, where two Army Corps defiled before the King, who was surrounded by a brilliant staff, comprising his brother, the Duke of Aosta; Lieutenant-General Bonelli, Minister of War; General Milon, Secretary-General to the War Department; and twenty-five foreign military attachés. The King's reception in Florence was most enthusiastic.

The foreign officers who officially assisted at these manoeuvres intend to present King Humbert with a handsome album containing all their portraits, which have been taken specially for the occasion.

HOLLAND.

The ceremony of unveiling the statue recently erected at the Hague in memory of Spinoza was performed on Tuesday in the presence of a distinguished assemblage. The Minister of the Interior represented the Prince of Orange, and amongst the foreign personages present were Herr Berthold Auerbach, M. van Vloten delivered an address eulogising the character and writings of the philosopher, whom he described as the promoter of civilisation and of the progress of humanity. The Cosmophile Club of Leipsic sent a wreath to place on the statue, which is the work of the sculptor Hexamer, and was much admired.

GERMANY.

The German military manoeuvres began yesterday week by a parade of the 3rd Army Corps on the Tempelhoferfeld. The Emperor, the Crown Prince, and the other Princes of the Imperial family, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, and the Grand Dukes of Hesse and Mecklenburg-Strelitz attended the parade on horseback. The troops subsequently marched past the Emperor, the Duke of Connaught riding by the side of the Ziethen Hussars. Sir Garnet Wolseley and several English officers were in the Emperor's suite. All the foreign officers, diplomatists, and other guests, to the number of 360, were invited to dine with the Emperor at the Royal castle after the parade; and the day finished with a gala fête at the Opera.

The military manoeuvres were continued on Saturday on the plain that lies south of Berlin, and at a distance of about ten miles from the capital. The manoeuvres consisted of an attack on a skeleton enemy, consisting of some battalions to represent sixteen battalions of foot, twenty-four squadrons of horse, and twelve batteries. The weather was magnificent, and a large crowd of spectators on foot, in carriages, and in carts, had assembled to watch the operations.

A parade of the Corps of the Guard took place at Berlin on Monday in presence of the Emperor, the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Prince Rudolph of Austria, and the King and Queen of the Hellenes. The appearance of the troops, about 26,000 in number, as they marched past the Emperor, was the subject of general admiration, and the whole spectacle was of a most imposing character. A large number of foreign officers of high rank witnessed the review. As the Duke of Cambridge was driving to the parade one of his horses fell, and nearly turned the carriage over. However, the Duke sprang out in time, and no particular damage was done. In the afternoon the Emperor gave a banquet in the White Hall of the Royal castle, to which all the field officers of the Guard and all the foreign officers in Berlin were invited. Lord Odo Russell, Lord Dufferin (who had just arrived at Berlin), and Sir Garnet Wolseley were among the guests.

On Tuesday morning the manoeuvres of the Corps of the Guard, south of Berlin, were witnessed by the Duke of Cambridge, the Duke of Connaught, the Austrian Crown Prince, the Prussian Princes, and all the princely guests present in Berlin, in company with the Emperor William.

Many distinguished persons have arrived at Berlin to witness the military manoeuvres. The Duke of Cambridge and the Grand Duke of Hesse arrived at Berlin on Thursday week, and were received at the station by Lord Odo Russell and Colonel Methuen, military attaché, with several representatives of the Court and army. The Emperor William paid a visit to the Duke at half-past twelve, and his Royal Highness returned the visit at one o'clock, when he was received by the Emperor and the Empress at the palace. A banquet was given at the palace in the evening, to which the Crown Prince, the various princely personages who had arrived in Berlin, Lord Odo Russell, Count Moltke, and many superior officers received invitations. Sir Garnet Wolseley is lodged in the Kaiserhof with numerous other foreign officers.

Prince Rudolph of Austria arrived on Sunday, and was received at the station with great respect and attention by the Emperor, the Crown Prince, Prince William, Prince Frederick Charles, and other illustrious persons. The Emperor gave a dinner in the evening in honour of the Prince. The King and Queen of Greece also arrived on Sunday, and went to the Hôtel du Nord, where apartments had previously been bespoken for them. Scarcely, however, had their Majesties taken possession when the hospitality of the Emperor was courteously but firmly pressed upon them, and they had no alternative but to remove to the Old Schloss. The Duke of Cambridge on Sunday attended Divine service in the English Church, and subsequently paid a long visit to Prince William at the palace of the Crown Prince.

The Berlin telegrams concur in stating that the reception of the Crown Prince Rudolph by the German Emperor was of a very cordial and demonstrative character, and the Prince's reception is said to have given great satisfaction at Vienna.

On Sunday the Emperor created the Prince a Major-General of the German army, fastening on his epaulettes himself.

The King and Queen of the Hellenes have received visits from all the members of the German Imperial family, the Crown Prince of Austria, and other Royal and distinguished personages now staying in Berlin. In the afternoon their Majesties returned the visits, and also called upon the Prussian Ministers, the members of the Diplomatic Corps, and Count Moltke.

The *Morning Post* correspondent at Berlin telegraphs that the King of Denmark has arrived there, and that his Majesty is travelling in the strictest incognito.

AUSTRIA-HUNGARY.

The manoeuvres of the Austrian army in Galicia ended on Friday, the 10th inst., when the Emperor, who had been present throughout, complimented all the branches of the service on their marching and their tactics. On his arrival in Lemberg on Saturday last the Emperor of Austria was presented by the Marshal of the province with the keys of the city and an address of homage. Subsequently the Emperor entered the town amid the pealing of bells, the firing of cannon, and other tokens of popular rejoicing.

On Monday the Emperor visited numerous institutions, among others the new Landtag building, the Ossclinsky Institution, and the Museum. His Majesty received a Jewish deputation, and visited the Protestant church and school, where a little girl addressed him in German. He next visited the forest school. In the Polish boys' school his Majesty visited the gymnastic room, and expressed the opinion that gymnastics should become obligatory in all schools. He visited the theatre, in which an historical Polish custom of a remarkable character was shown. It consisted of a representation by hussars in armour, to whose shoulders two silver eagle-wings were attached, the object of which was to frighten the enemy's horses.

The verbal understanding between Austria-Hungary and Germany which was arrived at last year is said to have been reduced to writing in the form of an offensive and defensive alliance. One clause is believed to promise support to the Austrian advance to Salonica, which would involve the absorption by the Empire of Servia. Great efforts have been made to secure the adhesion of Italy. This combination is directed against Russia and France.

RUSSIA.

The Czar has conferred upon Count Melikoff the Order of St. Andrew, the highest decoration bestowed.

Count Boris Melikoff left Livadia on Sunday last for St. Petersburg.

Last Saturday's Russian *Official Messenger* published a telegram from the Minister of the Interior, dated from Livadia, announcing that the Emperor had directed the Committee of Ministers to consider the best means of commencing without delay the construction of a portion of the projected Siberian railway.

The first iron bridge over the Volga, uniting the Orenburg line with the cis-Volga railway system, was opened for traffic last Saturday.

Next year, according to statements of the St. Petersburg press, strong fortifications are to be constructed round Wyborg, Finland.

TURKEY.

The Sultan has dismissed Kadri Pasha from the Premiership, and appointed Said Pasha as his successor. In the Imperial Hatt announcing these decisions his Majesty states that, in view of the gravity of the present state of affairs and the urgency of the measures to be taken, he has considered a change of Ministry to be necessary. From Said Pasha he expects a satisfactory solution of pending questions. Assim Pasha is appointed Minister for Foreign affairs, but several of the Ministers retain their present posts.

A telegram from Constantinople states that the Ambassadors, recognising the goodwill of the Porte and the difficulties which it has to encounter in the surrender of Dulcigno to the Montenegrins, have ordered the Naval Demonstration to be postponed for a few days. Riza Pasha has explained to the notables of Dulcigno the necessity for the surrender, and stated that the Sultan would reimburse them from his own personal revenue the cost of the fortifications which they had erected.

We learn from Ragusa that 6000 Montenegrins, with eight cannons, are on their way to Dulcigno, resolved to fight if they meet with any resistance; and from independent sources the grave intelligence comes to hand that the Albanian League has determined to resist the cession of Dulcigno to Montenegro by force of arms.

GREECE.

From Athens it is reported that on the 8th inst. there were already 42,000 men of the active army under arms. Orders have been given for winter uniforms for 24,000 troops.

AMERICA.

President Hayes arrived at San Francisco on Thursday, the 9th inst. Governor Perkins met him at Colfax, welcoming him to California. He had receptions at Sacramento, Benicia, and Oakland, and arrived at San Francisco in the afternoon. Enormous crowds received him, and a long procession escorted him to the Palace Hotel along a route gaily decorated with evergreens and flags. In the evening he was serenaded. He will remain for one month on the Pacific coast, returning east by a southern route through Arizona.

The full returns of the Vermont election (the *Times* correspondent says) show that the Republican majority was 27,354. This majority inspires the Republicans, who now anticipate a decisive victory in Maine next week.

At the Maine election on Monday Harris Plaisted, a Fusionist, supported by combined Democrats and Green-backers, was elected Governor by a majority of about 2000 over Davis, Republican, the present Governor of Maine.

CANADA.

Advices from New York state that the total revenue of the Canadian Government for the year ending June 30 was 24,768,585 dols. The expenditure of the year exceeded this sum by 393,127 dols.

Destructive fires, causing the loss of several lives, have occurred in the fir plantations near Upton. One hundred families are stated to have been rendered destitute by these fires.

At all the Roman Catholic churches in Quebec on Sunday a pastoral letter from the Catholic Archbishop was read, deploring the continued emigration from the province of Quebec to the United States, and appealing to the patriotism of the people to check the movement.

SOUTH AFRICA.

The Cape Mounted Rifles have entered Basutoland, and encamped at Maseru.

The Cape Town correspondent of the *Times* telegraphs:—The Premier and Mr. Orpen, travelling without an escort, have interviewed the chiefs, and there is fair hope of a peaceful settlement, except in the case of Masapha. Several who were concerned in the rebellion have expressed their penitence, and have been informed that they must pay a fine

for their offence. The colonial force has moved forward. Colonel Bayly's wing of the Cape Mounted Riflemen are at Maseru; Carrington's have gone to Mafeking. The Premier, after meeting Sir George Colley, returned to Maseru on the 12th inst.

Several farewell addresses have been presented to Sir Bartle Frere. A telegram through Reuter's agency, sent from Cape Town on Monday, states that the departure of the Union Company's steamer Pretoria, in which his Excellency and family return to England, had been postponed to Wednesday, in consequence of the indisposition of Lady Frere.

AUSTRALIA.

Great excitement has been caused in Australia by the discovery of the Temora gold-field, near Sydney. The rush of people into the township, the *Sydney Morning Herald* says, increases daily, men arriving even from Victoria. The great drawback to the development of the field is want of water for puddling purposes. Gold is being struck very freely. Pegging out and sinking are rapidly going on, and bark huts and tents are springing up everywhere along the road. The *Herald* adds—"Unless plenty of water can be stored, a good many miners will be starved out before a month is over, for at present it is principally the money they brought with them that supports them. No one should come here who cannot wait a while, for unless he gets a claim rich enough to allow him to pay for the carting of water from a long distance he cannot get his wash-dirt puddled."

The Melbourne International Exhibition is to be opened on Oct. 1. At a meeting of the commissioners, sixty-seven being present, on July 21, the executive presented a report, which was adopted. It stated:—"The ceremonial committee have reported that out of twenty-seven musical compositions received for the inaugural cantata, that of M. Léon Caron, of Melbourne, was found to be the most meritorious, and well deserving the premium of 100 guineas offered by the commissioners. The recommendation of the ceremonial committee has been adopted by the executive, and M. Caron has been intrusted with the necessary arrangements for the performance of the cantata. Instead of conferring the exclusive privilege of taking photographs within the exhibition on one artist, the executive have adopted a recommendation of the Fine Arts Committee that licenses of £25 each should be issued to approved photographers desirous of taking views."

Among the items of Australian news, weather of unusual severity is reported, and especially in New South Wales. Heavy snow had fallen on July 20 in the Braidwood district, lying at least two feet deep on the roads, and causing great destruction to flocks. In the Cooma district one squatter lost 500 sheep. In South Australia the cold is reported to be intense, and the fall of snow on the Flinder range the heaviest experienced for the last twenty years.

The King of the Belgians went from Ostend last week to visit the Fine Arts Exhibition at Bruges.

Prince Alexander Lubomirski, a Galician nobleman who resides in Paris, has given two million francs to be expended in works of public advantage to the people of Galicia.

The longest bridge in the world has been completed. It has been constructed upon the Volga, near Syzran, in Russia, and will form part in the Orenburg Railroad. In length it is more than 4176 feet, or nearly three times as long as the bridge across the Menai Straits. It is 126 feet above the level of the water. There are in the bridge thirteen spans, which are of such enormous size that an edifice like the Winter Palace at St. Petersburg could be placed between any two of them.

At Bradford, Pennsylvania, on the 28th ult., a tank containing 25,000 barrels of oil, was struck by lightning, and ignited, causing an alarming conflagration. Fears were entertained as to twenty other tanks in close proximity, and trenches were being dug around the burning liquid. The flames lighted up the whole valley, which contained about 1,800,000 barrels of oil. Latest advices report that the efforts to keep the fire from the adjacent tanks had been successful, but that 26,000 barrels of oil, as well as other property, had been destroyed.

LOUIS KOSSUTH AND CHARLES GILPIN.

In a notice of M. Kossuth's "Memories of My Exile," which recently appeared in our columns, strong doubts were expressed as to the truth of the author's statement that the British Prime Minister and Foreign Secretary of State, at the request of Mr. Charles Gilpin, furnished M. Kossuth with letters, written by themselves, which he was to show, with their consent, to the Emperor Napoleon, pledging her Majesty's Government to a friendly neutrality in case the war should extend to Hungary. Our critic's scepticism on this point is strongly corroborated by Mr. Capper, a nephew of Mr. Gilpin, in a letter to us, which, from the importance of the matter at issue, we give in full:—

Kinhaus, Seewis, Prattigau, Switzerland, Sept. 6, 1880.

Sir,—I have just seen the remarks in your impression of Aug. 21 about the relations between Kossuth and my late uncle, Charles Gilpin. I have no access to Mr. Gilpin's papers, and I would at once premise that the untarnished character of the great Hungarian, and his well-known scrupulous truthfulness, an estimate of his character which, to my mind at any rate, is strengthened by the love and affection which my uncle bore to him for a quarter of a century, absolutely forbid the notion of any wilful untruthfulness in the passage of his memoirs relating to the alleged communication between the heads of the Liberal party and the Emperor Napoleon at the time of the Italian war.

While, however, absolutely exonerating Kossuth from the possibility of anything approaching wilful deception, there are two circumstances which were deeply impressed upon my mind at the time, which appear to me to militate against the notion that my uncle, great as was his admiration for Kossuth, would have allowed himself to act the part of intermediary, in what would practically have been an intrigue for committing England to a hostile position towards Austria, in favour of Hungarian independence. I remember well Mr. Gilpin telling me at the time that, being accidentally at the South-Eastern terminus, London Bridge, one morning, in the summer of 1859, he saw a familiar form in the corner of a first-class carriage, but as the hat was drawn down over the gentleman's eyes he could not at first recognise him. "Hallo, Kossuth, is that you?" "Hush!" replied Kossuth, "don't mention my name;" and then he told my uncle that he was off on a confidential mission to the Emperor Napoleon to arrange for a rising in Hungary. This is wholly inconsistent with the idea that he was a party to the negotiations. About May of the same year died my great uncle and Mr. Gilpin's uncle, Joseph Sturge, of Birmingham. The Liberal party in the city of London were alarmed at the pronounced Austrian proclivities of the late Lord Derby's Government, and called a meeting to protest against our being involved in hostilities in favour of Austria. This meeting was summoned for the evening of the day of Mr. Sturge's funeral, and Mr. Gilpin left Birmingham early in the afternoon on purpose to attend it. Before his arrival, he would have committed the country to an resolution, which, if acted upon, would have committed the country to an active alliance with France and Italy. Mr. Gilpin succeeded in carrying an amendment in favour of absolute neutrality, and those present avowed that seldom was an immense public meeting so completely brought round by a single speech. In the course of it, Mr. Gilpin used, with thrilling effect, the circumstance that he came straight from the grave-side of that great apostle of peace, Jos. ph Sturge. If Kossuth can produce the letters, he will prove his position; if not, I think these fugitive recollections of mine sufficient to make most readers think that some confusion in the mind of the aged exile has caused him to make a serious mistake in the record of what took place twenty-two years ago.

SAMUEL JAMES CAPPER.

The last stage of the long inquiry into the charge against a Wimbledon marker was reached on Thursday, when the Court found the prisoner "Not Guilty." His sword and sash were handed to him, and he was directed to return to his duties at once.



1. General View of Seaham and the Harbour. 2. Putting out the fire in No. 3 Pit. 3. Women and old men going to the special service in the miners' chapel at night. 4. No. 1 and No. 2 Shafts, Seaham Colliery. 5. No. 3 Shaft, Seaham Colliery. 6. Miners and their wives waiting outside the dead-house to identify bodies. 7. Bringing up the first body.

THE COLLIERY DISASTER AT SEAHAM, NEAR SUNDERLAND.—SEE PAGE 295.

NOVELS.

Sensations similar to those of a sea-sick voyager are not unlikely to be experienced by many a reader of *White Wings*, by William Black (Macmillan and Co.); so far, at any rate, as bewilderment, dizziness, and complete self-abandonment are concerned. Throughout the three volumes there are a rush and a whirl, a staggering to and fro of persons and things, a confusion of scenes and sounds, a tumultuous, irresistible flow of narrative, description, dialogue, philological discussion, love-making, humorous anecdote, poetical quotation, and more or less comic or sentimental song, accompanied or unaccompanied by the printed score. The effect produced gives an excellent idea of the state of mind and body to which a passenger might be reduced at sea, when the waves were rolling mountains high, when it was impossible to distinguish water from land, or to separate sky from ocean, when all around was hurly-burly, and when the voices of men and women were heard as noises in a swoon. And as the novel is termed "a yachting romance," and as the yacht on which the romance is supposed to have been worked out made some bold cruises and saw a good deal of weather, the remarkable billowness of the style, combined with a considerable amount of tacking and veering, and occasional windiness, discursiveness, and haziness, may be regarded as eminently appropriate. The author presents us with a seapiece, healthy, vigorous, and refreshing, Turner-esque handled, though, perhaps, a little more than was desirable in the master's latest and least perspicuous manner; and, whilst showing us his picture and explaining the various portions of it, he tells us a pleasant little love-tale, in which figure the personages whose portraits he has introduced into his picture. It is a very little tale, a very slight romance, but agreeable withal; even if it be objected that the representatives of the gentler sex are of a very common, milliner-like sort, and that the heroine throws her handkerchief to the hero in the outrageously plain fashion of "kiss-in-the-ring," whilst the "queen" and her friends show scarcely so much of delicacy, refinement, and reticence as is generally believed to be usual in dealing with affairs of the heart and matrimonial matters. The hero is a young doctor, of extraordinary mental, moral, and physical gifts, though he has no claim to be considered handsome: he excels in most things, and he is especially great upon the subjects of bandaging ankles and steering yachts. It may be observed, by-the-way, that the heroine had sprained her ankle and was fond of steering. The whole of the romance, then, lies between these two; and the only incident of importance is the heroine's loss, during the cruise, of her small fortune, a loss which a Scottish laird, who is on board the yacht and has taken a great fancy to her, makes up to her out of his own pocket. It is upwards of three thousand pounds that he presents to her; and she accepts it without much ado. If any reader should consider such behaviour incredible either on the part of a Scottish laird or an English lady, the author would probably reply, and with reason, that more incredible things happen daily. The gist of the story, at any rate, lies herein: the hero and the heroine are in love from the first; when she loses her fortune, she, unwilling to hamper his prospects, as he is a poor man, assumes a noble pretence of indifference towards him and drives him away at the risk of breaking her heart; and, when the Scottish laird, having tried in vain to recommend his own nephew to her favour, comes to the rescue, her flown bird has to be wheedled back to the yacht and to her side. This is accomplished by the agency of sympathetic and sharp-sighted but somewhat meddlesome friends; and the romance is over. Some readers, if not most, will think little of the romance, in which, however, the laird and his nephew are made to provide good sport, and something more touching than sport; but all readers will admire the many passages in which the sights to be seen on land and sea, in calm and storm, during a cruise in the waters of the Western Highlands, are described by one who has eyes to see, ears to hear, a poet's sensibility, and language wherewith to interpret his impressions.

Command of literary graces, the subtle charm of style, the art of attractive composition, though they may amply atone for the deficiencies of a novelist, are by no means necessary to render an otherwise good story readable, as the three volumes entitled *Pious Frauds*, by Albany de Fonblanque (Richard Bentley and Son), may be cited to testify. In none of the three volumes, perhaps, could a single passage be selected as a specimen of masterly, or even noticeably elegant, writing; but the language and the arrangement are quite good enough for the purpose, which is evidently neither more nor less than to tell an interesting and ingenious, rather than an instructive or any other story. This purpose is fairly attained; there is no little originality in the conception of more than one character, the plot is contrived and developed with sufficient ingenuity, there is plenty of action and incident, and the inclination to read on, which is aroused in the very first chapter, is well sustained to the close. It may be a little late in the day for a revival of those old superstitions which once upon a time gave so much piquancy to works of fiction; novel-readers may nowadays shoot out the 'ip of scorn at sight of the prophecy, in rhyme, which predicts that the death of him who is from time to time the head of a certain noble house will follow upon the sinking of a certain stone or upon the occurrence of some other more or less singular event; but such a superstition and such a prediction are turned to pretty good account in the novel under consideration. The personages with whose fortunes the story is chiefly concerned are four in number, two of each sex; and they are introduced in the very first chapter, where two lovely girls, who appear to be not exactly ladies, meet two young fellows, who are certainly gentlemen in the world's acceptance of the term, for a sail upon a nameless river and a tea at a highly "respectable place" on the riverside. It is natural, at once, to feel alarmed lest something very wrong should be in the wind; but there is nothing of the kind. There is a wholesome atmosphere throughout the tale. It is true that a sweet, noble young gentlewoman accidentally falls into a marriage-trap and comes out very much hurt, having discovered that her supposed marriage was no marriage; but, if she may be open to a charge of haste in the matter of the supposed marriage, nothing can possibly have exceeded the propriety of her conduct either generally or on her discovery of her dreadful mistake. Indeed, this young gentlewoman and her fair cousin, the two lovely girls encountered in the first chapter, are creatures whose characters it does one good to study as they are gradually developed by the novelist. The only question that arises is whether that one of the twain who at first exhibits herself and is exhibited by the novelist as an artful, scheming, heartless hussy, could, with a due regard for psychological laws, ever have emerged from her moral chrysalis in the splendid, angelic form she subsequently displays. Certainly she had felt the magic touch of true love, and love can work wonders. Besides, she had always proved by her behaviour towards her fair cousin that there was a heart concealed somewhere about her, a spark of goodness which required only the blast of favourable circumstances to kindle it into flame. Let us grant, then, that she is true to the life, and a

worthy pendant to the picture of her apparently more discreet, but really rasher, cousin. As for Norman Drummond, the clever barrister, the calculating scoundrel, let him be anathema: it could only have been from a desire to be sternly regardless of reality that the author became reconciled to the idea of recording that such a villain "prospered," actually "visited Duchesses," and ultimately married an Earl's daughter, who was or had been in everything but law his wife, leaving her to read the news of his marriage and shudder. One cannot help thinking that the novel would have ended more satisfactorily if it had pleased the author to remove the sweet woman who unfortunately contracted a Scotch marriage on the English side of the border to a better world.

Excellent sentiments, sound morality, Christian principles, liberal doctrines, careful study of womankind, a wide acquaintance with various branches of literature, an eye for the picturesque, and a hand for the description of it, are among the most prominent characteristics of *Oliver Constable*, by Sarah Tytler (Smith, Elder, and Co.), a novel, in three volumes, from which unhealthy excitement is most carefully excluded. Indeed, it might be truthfully asserted that the story is free from every kind of excitement. Deeds of derring-do are unusually conspicuous by absence; there is scarcely an instance of heroic action in its physical form beyond a single kick on the shins administered to a muscular Christian by a drunken journeyman-baker. And that word recalls the main purpose of the story, which is to show what befell a young man, Oliver Constable by name, who, having received his education and taken high honours at the University of Oxford, determined to throw away his chances of becoming as much of a gentleman as he could have become by embracing some one of the vocations for which his scholastic training had qualified him, and to carry on his father's and grandfather's business as a "miller and baker." And certainly the description given of the old mill and mill-house, fronting the water, will justify him in the eyes of many a reader. His sister, however, the only other child of his lately deceased father, is disgusted at his choice, and unsuccessfully attempts to shake his resolution; for she has lady-like instincts, and aspires to gentility. In this girl and her fate the main interest of the novel undoubtedly centres; and when she, whose personal appearance has been so minutely delineated, whose nature and thoughts have been so elaborately and sympathetically analysed, whose arguments have been so amusingly set forth, whose drifting into love has been so delicately indicated, whose trials after marriage have been so graphically sketched, and whose premature death has been so touchingly described, is removed from the pages, there is small temptation to read any further. Henceforth it is hardly to be expected that the majority of readers will care what is the result of Oliver Constable's magnanimous efforts to conduct the miller's and baker's trade on principles of scrupulous honesty, and to impose pure flour and fair weight upon a public which rather seeks after adulteration, and which, proverbially, "likes to be deceived." Nevertheless, the character of Oliver Constable, a man a little after the fashion of the "prodigious" old Scotchman, "Dominie Sampson," is well conceived, though the development of it is not accomplished without an excess of uninteresting and wearisome detail.

Dentists may find encouragement without dipping far into *Winged Words*, by Henry Spicer (Tinsley Brothers), for at the second page of the first out of two volumes it is written that a dentist had so "splendid a practice" as to leave behind him at his death "a hundred and twenty thousand pounds." And it cannot have been the celebrated Mr. Cartwright, for we are distinctly informed that the dentist's name was Morfew. He must have been no ordinary man, for he proposed to and was accepted by a lady who had just bitten his hand frightfully as he was drawing one of her teeth, and who had apparently never given him any other encouragement. This lady is the heroine of the first among a collection of short stories with which the two volumes are filled; and the way in which she is represented to have fastened her teeth in her dentist's hand is all of a piece with her general character. A more detestable old woman was never conceived by story-teller; she is too unreasonably spiteful for a step-mother even, and yet she was a mother and a grandmother. The historiette relating to her and her grandchildren and her man of business is told with considerable humour; and, indeed, a vein of fun and humour, degenerating occasionally into the mere comic man's affected drollery, runs through many of the stories. Some of them, on the contrary, are coloured tragic; others, supernatural, with ghostly apparitions, vouched for by credible witnesses. Two or three of the pieces are very good reading indeed; the literary level, however, is not a high one, and the amount of constructive skill is inconsiderable.

A dreadfully old play upon words, much older, no doubt, than the song about the joker who had "only been ringing the convent-belle," is audaciously adopted, as if it were something novel and striking, in the title of *Belles and Ringers*, by Hawley Smart (Chapman and Hall), a "novelette" contained, as the diminutive would suggest, in a single volume. And in this "novelette" the merry jest involved in the title is expanded with an ingenious complacency worthy of that great discoverer little Jack Horner. "Miss Blanche is, of course, the belle, you the ringer, and Mr. Beauchamp the clapper," says one of the characters, with the air of a facetious Columbus. "You" is Lady Mary, mother of Miss Blanche, be it understood. After this explanation an intelligent reader will, no doubt, conclude, not without reason, that the drift of the story is to show with what success or failure Lady Mary schemed to marry Miss Blanche to Mr. Beauchamp. And to justify the use of the plural number in the title there is another lady who is engaged in similar business to that which occupies what a flatterer might be pleased to call the mind of Lady Mary, so that the two match-makers carry on a sort of rivalry. The author is not one of your profound students and analysers of human nature, revealing unsuspected but, when they have once been revealed, instantaneously acknowledged attributes and impulses, with all their consequences; but he tells a lively, agreeable story in a sprightly, dashing manner; and he introduces his readers into the best and most aristocratic society, so far as titles and position, which a novelist can bestow at will, are concerned. The personages hold such views and employ such language, and conduct themselves in such wise as would be expected of a certain class of military gentlemen and philomilitary ladies and their connections: they make not a single remark for which a single reader is likely to be the better or the wiser or very much the merrier or happier; but they talk in a strain of rather common, perhaps, though somewhat piquant worldliness. The chief incidents, besides love and marriage, are a foot-race, a horse-race, a gallop across country, with a harmless fall, charade acting, a game of polo, and a water party—incidents full of life, gaiety, movement, and colour such as made up the round of idle people's existence, and such as working people, though they may have but little personal participation in them, can enjoy, as it were, by proxy through the mere exercise of their reading faculties.

POST-OFFICE WORK.

The twenty-sixth annual report on the Post-Office, being that for the financial year ended March 13, was presented to Parliament last week.

The number of post-offices open in the United Kingdom on March 31, 1880, was 912 head and 13,000 sub-offices, being an increase of 331 offices since last year; 661 new letter-boxes in streets, roads, &c., have been established during the year, and the total number of receptacles of letters of all kinds is 26,753, of which number 1-13th are in London. The new building for the Savings Bank Department has been completed and occupied. New and large branch offices have been opened in Queen Victoria-street and Fleet-street, and arrangements are in progress for enlarging and improving several of the branch offices in London.

Arrangements have been made with the Isle of Man Steam-Packet Company for a daily mail (Sundays excepted) to the Isle of Man throughout the year, instead of during the summer only, as formerly was the case, and one or two of the smaller Orkney and Shetland Islands have now had granted to them the novel privilege of a post. A service, unique of its kind, has been established at the Clyde, on a steamer plying between Greenock and Ardrishaig, in which all the ordinary work of a post-office, even to the transmission of telegrams, is performed. At Liverpool the foreign plan of affixing to pillar and wall letter-boxes indicators, showing the public when the box was last cleared, has been introduced, and will shortly also be tried in Edinburgh. On March 1 last the late fee charged for posting inland and ordinary letters after the time of closing the boxes for the dispatch of a mail was reduced to a uniform rate of a halfpenny.

The number of inland letters dealt with in the year was 1,137,997,500, showing an increase of 2·8 per cent on the previous year; the number of post cards was 114,458,400, showing an increase of 2·7 per cent; the number of book packets and circulars was 213,903,000, or an increase of 8·6 per cent, and of newspapers 130,518,400, or an increase of 0·3 per cent. Taking the correspondence of all kinds, the number was 1,586,937,000, showing an average of 46 per head of the population, and an increase of 3·3 per cent over the previous year. The number of letters registered in the United Kingdom during the year was 8,739,191, being an increase of 21·3 per cent, and more than double the number dealt with in 1877, before the reduction of the registration fee. No fewer than 5,762,353 registered letters passed through the chief office, and 47,000 parcels of Christmas presents were dealt with in that office as compared with 30,000 in 1878.

No less than 1417 letters containing coin and articles of value were observed which had been posted without registration, a practice which, as Mr. Fawcett points out, throws great temptation in the way of Post-Office servants. One of such letters, which contained £200 in bank-notes, was stolen in 1877, and eventually the theft was brought home to a letter-carrier, who was convicted, and £175 of the money recovered. Exclusive of postage-stamps found loose to the number of 72,000, no less than 27,224 articles of various kinds escaped from their covers, and were sent to the Returned Letter Office, this number being about half as large again as in the previous year.

The total number of returned letters was 5,345,673; of book packets, 3,541,103; of post-cards, 496,446; and of newspapers, 374,741. Of these 4,570,743 were returned to the writers, and 78,291 reissued to corrected addresses. In 526,469 cases the writers had given no address to admit of the letters being returned to them; 21,621 letters were posted without any address, among which were 1141 containing cash and bank-notes to the amount of £433, and cheques, bills, &c., for £4251; 4500 letters and packets were stopped on account of the objectionable nature of their contents, such as frogs, lizards, insects, &c., and in one instance a marlinpike.

In the telegraphic department, the number of messages received during the first six months of the year was less than in the corresponding period of the previous year, but a marked increase then showed itself, and, being more than maintained, brought up the number of messages at the close of the year to 26,547,137, as against 24,459,775 in the previous year, being an increase of 2,087,362. About 313,500,000 words of news were delivered to newspapers, clubs, &c.; seventy-one new offices were opened for telegraph business, the total number of postal telegraph offices in the United Kingdom being 3924, in addition to 1407 railway stations. Various improvements have been effected, notably in the Wheatstone receiving apparatus, and it is proposed to provide additional wires between London and many of the principal towns. The private wire business continues to increase. The revised regulations and tariffs agreed to by the International Telegraph Conference came into operation on April 1 last.

Ten years have elapsed since the telegraphs were transferred to the State, and from the particulars given it appears that whereas the telegraph companies had at the time of the transfer 1992 offices in addition to 496 railway offices, the Post Office can boast of 3924 offices of its own and 1407 railway stations open for telegraph work, or in all 5331 offices, against 2488 under the companies. The number of instruments in use by the companies was 2200; by the Post Office, 8151. In 1869 the total length of submarine cables connecting different parts of the United Kingdom was 139 miles. Last year it was 707 miles. The length of pneumatic tube employed by the companies was 4844 yards; the Post Office now employs 48,260 yards. The total number of telegraphists employed by the companies was 2514 (of whom 479 were women), and the number of messengers 1471. The total number of telegraphists employed by the Post Office last year was 5611 (of whom 1556 were women), and of messengers 4648; but, besides these, many persons are employed in telegraph work who hold no appointment on the establishment, but are paid by the postmasters out of allowances for assistance. Last year the Post Office forwarded 26,547,137 messages, or four times as many as in 1869.

The inland money-order business shows a falling off, but that with foreign countries and the colonies exhibits a satisfactory increase, and a reduction in the rates of commission, which came into operation on Jan. 1, will tend to its further development. Taking the whole business together, the total number of orders issued was 17,307,573, or a decrease on the previous year of 433,049; the amount of such orders being £26,371,020, or a decrease on the previous year of £932,073. Notwithstanding the dulness of trade and the bad harvest in 1879, the excess of deposits over withdrawals continues, and the balance due to depositors shows an increase of upwards of a million and a half sterling. Of this increase no less than £91,853 falls to the share of Ireland, and of this amount the counties chiefly affected by the distress—viz., Clare, Cork, Donegal, Galway, Kerry, Mayo, Roscommon, and Sligo—contributed £25,418.

Mr. Fawcett alludes to the death of Sir Rowland Hill, and also pays a graceful and well-deserved tribute to the value of the labours of Sir John Tilley, who retired during the year from the position of secretary, after a service of fifty years, and to those of Mr. Page, the late assistant-secretary.

OBITUARY.

LORD ASHTOWN.

The Right Honourable Frederick Mason, second Baron Ash-town, of Moate, in the county of Galway, in the Peerage of Ire-land, died on the 12th inst. He was born Dec. 25, 1804, the eldest son of Francis Trench, of Sopwell Hall, in the county of Tipperary, by Mary, his wife, second daughter of Mr. Henry Mason, of Shrewsbury; and succeeded to the title May 1, 1840, at the decease of his uncle, Frederic, first Lord Ashtown, who was so created Dec. 27, 1800, with remainder to the heirs male of the body of his late father, Frederic Trench, of Woodlawn, in the county of Galway. The nobleman whose death we record was educated at Cambridge. He was a Magistrate and Deputy-Lieutenant for the county of Galway, and served as High Sheriff previously to his accession to the Peerage. He married, first, Aug. 29, 1831, Henrietta, youngest daughter of Mr. Thomas Phillips Cosby, of Stradbally Hall, Queen's County; and secondly, Feb. 10, 1852, Elizabeth, second daughter and coheir of Mr. Richard Oliver-Gascoigne, of Parlington, in the county of York. By the former (who died Feb. 25, 1845) he had two sons and two daughters. Of the sons, the elder, the Hon. Frederic Sidney Charles Trench, died March 2, 1879, leaving, by Lady Anne Le Poer Trench, his wife, daughter of William Thomas, Earl of Clancarty, an eldest son, Frederic-Oliver, born Feb. 2, 1868, who is now third Lord Ashtown. The Hon. Mrs. Trench, wife of the Most Rev. Dr. Trench, Archbishop of Dublin, is eldest sister of the late Lord Ashtown.

SIR J. S. WOOD.

Colonel Sir John Stewart Wood, K.C.B., lately Inspector General of the Royal Irish Constabulary, who died on the 9th inst. at Ryde, was last surviving son of Major J. T. Wood, by Hannah his wife, daughter of Major-General Stewart; and entered the Army at an early age in 1831. His military career was highly distinguished. He took an active part in the old campaigns in Afghanistan, and wore medals for Ghuznee, Jellalabad, and Cabul. From 1854 to 1855 he served in the Crimea, at the Alma, Balaklava, Inkerman, and Sebastopol, for which he received the medal with three clasps, together with the Turkish medal; was made a Knight of the Legion of Honour and of the Medjidie. In 1865 he was appointed Inspector-General of the Royal Irish Constabulary, and retired in 1876. He became C.B. Military in 1855, and K.C.B. Civil in 1870. Sir John married, in 1844, Isabelle Frances, daughter of George Baker, Esq., of Beverley, near Canterbury, and leaves issue.

LIEUTENANT E. W. WILLIAMS-WYNN.

Lieutenant Edward Watkin Williams-Wynn, Scots Guards, was accidentally drowned in the Thames, near Windsor, on the 8th inst. He was nephew and heir presumptive of Sir Watkin Williams-Wynn, Bart., of Wynnistay, in the county of Denbigh, who stands, by popular consideration, foremost amongst the great landed proprietors of the Principality of Wales. Mr. Williams-Wynn was born in 1857, the eldest son of the late Mr. Herbert Watkin Williams-Wynn, M.P. for Montgomeryshire, by Anna, his wife, daughter and heir of Mr. Edward Lloyd, of Cefn, in the county of Denbigh. He was educated at Eton, entered the Army in 1876, and was promoted to a Lieutenancy in 1877.

We have also to record the deaths of—

The Hon. Harry Cavendish Grey, youngest surviving son of Charles, second Earl Grey, on the 5th inst., at Howick, Northumberland, in his sixty-sixth year.

Major Raymond Inglis, late Royal Fusiliers, and formerly in the 18th and 2nd Queen's Regiment, on the 2nd inst., at his residence, Drumnahan, near Pitlochry, N.B.

The Rev. Thomas Watson, for thirty years Vicar of East Fairleigh, near Maidstone, on Sunday last, at the advanced age of eighty-six.

William John Bolton, C.M.G., Lieutenant-Colonel Royal Artillery, and Brevet-Colonel Commanding Auxiliary Artillery, 2nd Sub-District, N.B., on the 9th inst., at Aberdeen, aged fifty-two years.

Arthur Honywood, Lieutenant of 66th Regiment, killed at the battle of Khushk-i-Nakhud, on July 27, aged nineteen, fourth son of the late Sir Courtenay Honywood, Bart., of Evington, Kent.

William Ernie Money-Kyrle, late 21st Regiment (Royal Scots Fusiliers), on the 4th inst., at Littlehampton, aged thirty-five years, eldest son of Lieutenant-Colonel Money-Kyrle, of Homme House, Herefordshire.

The Rev. James Henry Bower, of The Larches, East Sheen, Surrey, formerly Vicar of Newnham, in the county of Kent, on the 9th inst., at Teignmouth, son of the late Mr. James Bower, of Weymouth and Melcombe Regis.

Mr. Mansel Longworth Dames, J.P., formerly of the 6th Enniskillen Dragoons, on the 5th inst., at 15, Lansdowne-terrace, Cheltenham, aged eighty-eight. He was of the family of Longworth-Dames, of Greenhill, King's County.

Lieutenant Clement George Whitby, of H.M. 17th Regiment of Foot, Acting Wing Officer of the 1st Bombay Grenadiers, killed in action at the battle of Khushk-i-Nakhud on July 27, eldest son of Dr. Whitby, Leamington, late of Ottery St. Mary, aged twenty-five.

Mr. Thomas Birch-Wolfe, of Wood Hall, Arkesden, Essex, on the 5th inst., at his residence, 40, Lansdowne-place, Brighton, aged seventy-eight. He was youngest and last surviving son of the Rev. Richard Birch, Rector of Widdington and Bradwell-juxta-Mare, by Elizabeth, his wife, sister of Sir Henry Bate Dudley, Bart. He succeeded to the estate of his cousin, Mr. John Wolfe, in 1864, and assumed the additional surname of Wolfe.

Lieutenant-Colonel George John Davies Heath, Madras Staff Corps, on the 3rd inst., aged forty-eight. He was formerly Deputy-Assistant-Commissary-General, served with the Sangur Field Division in Central India, was present at the relief of Kirwee, and took part in the subsequent assault on the heights of Punwarree and the defeat of the rebels, Dec. 29, 1858. He had a medal with clasp.

Lieutenant Thomas Rice Henn, Royal Engineers, killed at the battle of Khushk-i-Nakhud, Afghanistan, on July 27 last, aged thirty, third son of Mr. Thomas Rice Henn, D.L., of Paradise Hill, in the county of Clare, one of her Majesty's Counsel and Recorder of Galway, by Jane Isabella, his wife, second daughter of the late Lord Chancellor Blackburne. Lieutenant Henn was Acting Brigade Major and on the staff of General

Burrows in the action in which he fell. This promising and much-lamented young officer, who won his commission by a brilliant course at Woolwich, was specially mentioned in despatches four times within the last fifteen months.

CHESS.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

All communications relating to this department of the Paper should be addressed to the Editor, and have the word "Chess" written on the envelope.

SH (Nottingham).—We are much obliged to you for the games played at Trouville, and wish your leisure were greater that we might hear from you more frequently. Please address the paper specially to this department.

B G L (Islington).—Is there not a solution to the three-move problem by 1. Kt takes R? The other shall appear soon.

F O N H (Liverpool).—The problems are very acceptable, and we are very glad to hear from you again.

PRINCE (Pinsbury Park).—Your letter, we regret to say, has been overlooked. We will consider the matter referred to and reply next week. It is not a question to be answered off-hand.

W B (Sheffield).—The problems shall be examined.

K G (Bombay).—You will find a note referring to problem No. 1849 in our issue of Aug. 30, 1879. In the solution of No. 1855, the answer to 1. R to Q Kt 5th is 2. Q takes B (ch), to which Black has but one rejoinder, 2. P to Q B 4th. White then captures the Q B P, en passant, with the Pawn on Q 5th, discovering checkmate to the Queen. The answer to 1. B takes B, is 2. Q to Kt 4th (ch), &c.

BUFFALO CHESS CLUBS.—We have a letter for Mr. Richmond, which shall be forwarded if he will favour us with his precise address.

W S (Oswaldkirk).—The move 1. Kt to Q R 4th is a feeble one, and, consequently, has not been analysed. Black, in reply, can play B takes P, and if Kt takes B, then Q to Q R 4th (ch) recovers the piece.

VA (U.S.).—Correct solutions of Nos. 1901, 1902, and 1903. Your opinion of 1903 is in accord with ours.

REV. JOHN WILLS (U.S.A.).—Correct solution of No. 1903.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 1905 received from Hesley Hall and H Hampton. CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 1906 received from Ozokerine, D A (Dublin), Alfyn, J Glossop, and H Hampton.

CORRECT SOLUTIONS OF PROBLEM No. 1907 received from H B, E Loudon, A C R Jessop, S Farrant, Jupiter Junior, O Darragh, N Warner, R Ingersoll, D Templeton, H Barrett, Ernest Sharswood, B L Dyke, N Cator, H Langford, Elsie, Kitten, O S Cox, An Old Hand, H Brewster, B Grey, E Elsbury, Nerina, H Blacklock, G Postbrooke, D W Kell, M O'Halloran, Ben Nevis, G L Mayne, A Kentish Man, O Oswald, Flos, W J Eggleston, D A (Dublin), A C Edwards, Norman Rambelow, O T B (Manchester), J Glossop, J W W E L G, Smutch, Alfyn, Franklin Institute, Hereward, Alphon and Flop, Hofrede de Groot, A W Hale, W M Curtis, Alpha, H Hampton, James Dobson, F C W, Shudforth, East Marden, Carica, J Simpson, Lula, A R (Burnsley), R H Brooks, Otto Wolter, L Sharswood, and B F (Winchester).

NOTE.—All the above named correspondents have solved this problem in three moves.

SOLUTION OF PROBLEM No. 1906.

WHITE.

- 1. Q to R 5th
- 2. K takes P
- 3. K to B 3rd. Mate.

BLACK.

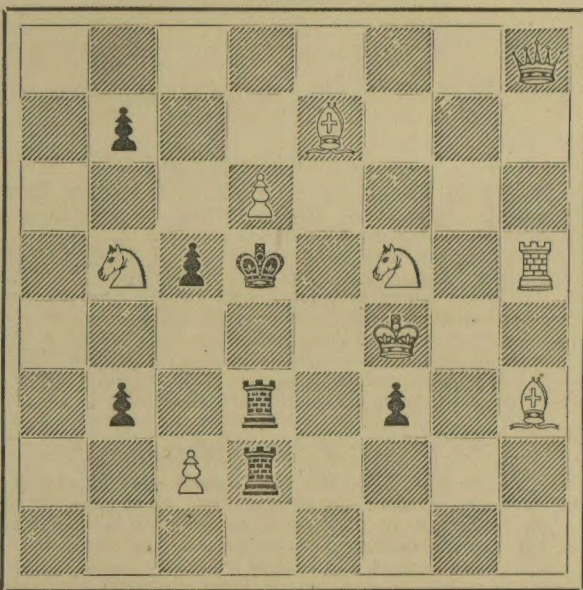
- K takes P*
- Kt takes Kt (ch)

* If Black play 1. K to B 5th, then 2. K to K 4th; if 1. Kt takes Kt or Kt to Q 7th, then 2. R to Q sq (ch); if 1. Kt to K 3rd, then 2. Q to B 3rd (ch), &c., mating on the third move in each case.

PROBLEM No. 1909.

By F. O'NEILL HOPKINS.

BLACK.



WHITE.

White to play, and mate in three moves.

The following Games, between Mr. HAMEL, President of the Nottingham Chess Club, and M. A. DE RIVIERE, were played recently at Trouville. (King's Gambit declined.)

WHITE (Mr. H.)

- 1. P to K 4th
- 2. P to K B 4th
- 3. Kt to K B 3rd
- 4. P takes Q P
- 5. Q to K 2nd

BLACK (M. de R.)

- P to K 4th
- B to B 4th
- P to Q 4th
- P to K 5th

We should have preferred 5. Kt to K 5th, followed by 6. B to B 4th, to thus shutting in the King's Bishop.

WHITE (Mr. H.)

- 6. P to Q B 4th
- 7. Kt to K 5th
- 8. P to Q 3rd
- 9. P takes Kt
- 10. Q takes P
- 11. P to Q Kt 4th
- 12. K to Q sq

BLACK (M. de R.)

- Kt to K B 3rd
- Castles
- Q Kt to Q 2nd
- Kt takes Kt
- P takes P
- Kt to Kt 5th
- B to B 7th (ch)
- Kt takes P

WHITE (Mr. H.)

- 13. Q to Q B 3rd
- 14. K to B 2nd
- 15. K to Kt 3rd
- 16. Kt to Q 2nd

BLACK (M. de R.)

- B to Kt 5th (ch)
- B to B 4th (ch)
- P to K B 3rd
- P to Q B 4th

Mr. Hamel has conducted the opening in, for him, a rather careless manner, and now the timely advance of these Pawns gives Black a winning advantage.

WHITE (Mr. H.)

- 17. Kt to K B 3rd
- 18. B to K B 4th
- 19. Q to Q 2nd
- 20. B takes P
- 21. K takes Kt
- 22. K to Kt 3rd
- 23. K to R 4th

BLACK (M. de R.)

- P to Q Kt 4th
- B P takes P
- P takes P (ch)
- Kt takes B
- Q R to B sq (ch)
- R to B 6th (ch)
- Q to Kt 3rd.

White resigned.

Between the same Players.

(Ruy Lopez.)

WHITE (M. de R.)

- 1. P to K 4th
- 2. Kt to K B 3rd
- 3. B to Q Kt 5th
- 4. B to R 4th
- 5. Kt to Q B 3rd
- 6. B to Kt 3rd
- 7. P to Q 3rd

BLACK (Mr. H.)

- P to K 4th
- Kt to K B 3rd
- P to Q B 3rd
- Kt to Kt 4th
- P to Q Kt 3rd
- B to B 4th
- R to Q Kt sq

This move is recommended by the "books" as a reply to the advance of the Q R P, but in this position it seems to us to be unnecessary.

WHITE (M. de R.)

- 8. Castles
- 9. B to K Kt 5th
- 10. Q to Q 2nd
- 11. B takes Kt
- 12. Kt to Q 5th
- 13. Kt takes Kt
- 14. P to K B 4th
- 15. Kt takes B (ch)
- 16. P to K B 5th
- 17. P takes B
- 18. P to K Kt 4th
- 19. Q to Kt 2nd
- 20. P to K 5th
- 21. B to B 3rd
- 22. P to Kt 5th
- 23. R to Kt 3rd
- 24. R to K B sq
- 25. P to K 6th

BLACK (Mr. H.)

- Kt to K 2nd
- P to Q 3rd
- B takes B
- Kt to Q 5th
- P takes Kt
- B to K 3rd
- Q takes Kt
- B takes B
- R to Q Kt 3rd
- Q to K R 5th
- P to Q 4th
- R to K R 3rd
- P to B 4th
- R to R 4th
- R to R sq
- R to K sq
- P takes P

The problem which was the subject of the solution tourney at the Brunswick Congress, and which was quoted in our Issue of Sept. 4, has been solved from the diagram by the following correspondents:—By East Marden, in two sittings of one hour each; by W. M. Curtis in five hours; by T. Greenbank in five hours and a half; by C. Oswald, four sittings, together seven hours; and by "An Old Hand" in seven hours. With the pieces on the board, Alpha solved the problem in ten minutes.

We learn from the Australasian that there were ten entries for the handicap challenge cup of the Melbourne Chess Club, and that they have been classified by Mr. L. S. Phillips, the handicapper, as follows:—First class—Mr. Burns; second class—Messrs. Esling, Fleming, Simpson, and Stephen; third class—Messrs. Beckett, Agg, Harlin, Lulman, and Lush.

WILLS AND BEQUESTS.

The will (dated Dec. 8, 1879) of Mr. Edward Heneage, D.L., late of Stag's-end, Great Gaddesden, Herts, who died on June 21 last, was proved on the 1st inst. by Windsor Richard Heneage, the son, the acting executor, the personal estate being sworn under £60,000. The testator appoints his cousin, Mary Prince, guardian of his only daughter, and he gives her £250 if she accepts such guardianship; a sum of £20,000 is left upon trust for his said daughter, but upon her marriage one fourth thereof is to revert to his residuary estate. He bequeaths to Miss Martha Hannah Woods, for her attention to his daughter, £500; to his then present head coachman, head gardener, and cook, if in his service at his decease, £40 each; the household furniture and effects at his residence, Stag's-end, to his son Windsor Richard, and his plate he divides between several of his sons; he also exercises in their favour the powers of appointment given to him by his marriage settlements. All his real estate is directed to be sold, and the proceeds, with his residuary personal estate, he leaves to his five sons. The deceased represented Great Grimsby in Parliament in the Liberal interest from 1835 down to 1852.

The will (dated Oct. 17, 1867) with six codicils (the last being dated March 8, 1873) of Mr. James Campbell, formerly of Cardigan House, Richmond, but late of Cawley Priory, Chichester, who died on July 19 last, has just been proved by Mrs. Caroline Campbell, the widow and acting executrix, the personal estate being sworn under £60,000. The testator gives to his wife his residence, Cawley Priory, with the furniture, plate, effects, horses and carriages, and £500; and there are various provisions in favour of his children. The residue of his real and personal property he leaves to his wife for life, and then to his children, as she shall appoint.

The will (dated Sept. 6, 1875) of Mrs. Sally Hall Bradshaw, late of Portland-place, Reading, who died on July 19 last, was proved on the 26th ult. by Richard Fisher and William Wallace Cowslade, the surviving executors, the personal estate being sworn under £35,000. The testatrix bequeaths £3000 Three per Cent Consolidated Bank Annuities to the Association for Promoting the General Welfare of the Blind, Euston-road; £1000 like annuities each to the Royal Hospital for Incurables, the Royal Berkshire Hospital, the Winchester County Hospital, the Westminster Hospital, and the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals; £500 like annuities to the Reading Dispensary; £1500 like annuities to the Royal National Life-Boat Institution towards the establishment and maintenance of three life-boats, to be named "Faith," "Hope," and "Charity"; £1000 like annuities each to the Royal College of Physicians and the Royal College of Surgeons, to found lectureships on some subject in physic and surgery, to be delivered on Aug. 18 in each year, to be respectively called "The Bradshaw Lecture," in memory of her late husband, Dr. William Wood Bradshaw; £1000 like annuities upon trust, to distribute the annual income on Ascension Day in each year among the poor parishioners of Upper Clatford, Andover, especial consideration being paid to the aged and infirm poor; and there is a precisely similar bequest for the benefit of the poor parishioners of Moultsford, near Wallingford. Her executors are directed to place a marble tablet in the churches of Upper Clatford and Moultsford with a record of these bequests. There are numerous legacies to relatives, friends, and others; and the residue of her property she leaves to her sister, Mary Ann Pouncey, and her niece, Kate Sarah King.

The will (dated Oct. 20, 1879) with two codicils (dated Nov. 11, 1879, and June 24, 1880) of Mrs. Georgiana Wrightson, late of Cusworth Park, Yorkshire, and of No. 22, Upper Brook-street, Grosvenor-square, who died on July 2 last, was proved on the 10th ult. by Richard Heber Wrightson and John Robert Williams, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £35,000. There are numerous legacies to her sisters, cousins, and other relatives, godchildren, and late and present maids, and the residue the testatrix gives to her brother, the Rev. Charles Edward Thomas.

The will dated (Feb. 16, 1878) with a codicil (dated April 22, 1879) of Mr. Frederick John Evans, late of Claypolds, Brentford, Middlesex, who died on July 8 last, was proved on the 20th ult. by Mrs. Cecilia Anne Evans, the widow, and acting executrix, the personal estate being sworn under £35,000. The testator bequeaths to his wife £1000 and an annuity of £1000, and certain of his furniture, plate, and effects for life; to his niece and adopted daughter, Minna Fanny Cecilia Evans, an annuity of £100 during his wife's lifetime, and at her death such a sum is to be set apart upon trust for his said niece as will produce £800 per annum; to his sister-in-law, Mrs. Amelia Miller, an annuity of £200; annuities to nieces and other legacies. As to the residue of his property, the income is to go to his wife for life, and at her death the capital between some of his nephews and nieces.

The will (dated June 30, 1880) of Mrs. Elizabeth Izant, late of the Queen's Hotel, Upper Norwood, who died on the 6th ult., was proved on the 20th ult. by Richard Herbert, the brother, and Henry Wilcox, the executors, the personal estate being sworn under £18,000. The testatrix distributes her property among her children and other relatives.

THE SEAHAM COLLIERY DISASTER.

The terrible disaster of Wednesday week at the Seaham Colliery, near Sunderland, by an explosion of the inflammable gas called by the miners "fire-damp," was reported in our last. Two pages of this Supplement and the front page of the Number are filled with a series of Illustrations, which are furnished by our Artist's Sketches, with some aid from photographs by Messrs. Stabler and Fries, of Sunderland, and Mr. J. Lomax, of Seaham Harbour.

Seaham is a small seaport, nineteen miles from Newcastle-upon-Tyne. It is in the county of Durham, and in the richest portion of that coal-field. The late Marchioness of Londonderry showed great enterprise in the improvement of the harbour, with the view of getting ready shipment of the produce of her mines. The present Marquis has fully supported the views which her Ladyship entertained, and Seaham is principally devoted to the Marquis of Londonderry's export of coal. Durham and Northumberland, by reason of the great care taken, have enjoyed a singular immunity from accident since the dreadful disaster which occurred at the Hartley Colliery, in Northumberland.

The Seaham Colliery pit was sunk about forty years ago. It was worked during about half that time with a single shaft for sending down the men and ventilating the pit. That old system of working was abolished by the Mines Regulation Act of 1862, which made it compulsory to have two separate and distinct shafts some distance apart for ventilation and taking the men up and down the pit. This colliery still preserves the old arrangement of a shaft with a brattice separating it; but this is now entirely worked as a downcast shaft, where the men go down and come up, and it is called No. 1 and No. 2 shafts, but is really one shaft with a brattice up the centre. The upcast shaft is about 150 yards distant, and is the outlet by which all the foul air comes from the pit. There are five seams of coal worked—the Main seam, 460

varus from the surface; the Maudlin seam, 490 yards deep; Nos. 1, 2, and 3, Hutton seams, which are broken up by a "fault;" these are worked in three sections about twenty yards below the Main and Maudlin seams. There are two seams further down, the Harvey and Baskey, at a depth from the top of the shaft of 560 yards to 600 yards. There are about 1600 men employed at the colliery altogether, and they work three "shifts" per day, or seven hours each, so that the full complement of men in the pit at one time would not be less than five hundred. But, fortunately, the hour at which the explosion occurred, being half-past two, was previous to the hewers coming on, which would be at four o'clock in the morning. The number below was actually 246, and it is stated that there were very few hewers in the pit, the men there being principally engaged in clearing the travelling-ways and putting in timber to support the roofs and make it safe for the men to get the coal. The force of the explosion, supposed to have originated in the lowest seams, was such as to block up both the upcast and downcast shafts, and this led to the belief that every soul in the pit had perished. Ventilation was, however, soon restored, and the work of removing the debris in the shaft was commenced. This operation did not go on long before the efforts of the exploring party were rewarded by sounds from below, and within four hours of the explosion the nineteen men in the upper or main coal seam were found alive and well. They were got at by relays of men going down through the broken and shattered shaft by means of loops slung on chains, the regular cages and runners having been destroyed.

The manager of the colliery, Mr. Stratton, whose portrait we have engraved, was the first person, accompanied by the resident viewer and two of the workmen, to descend into the pit after the explosion, and to open communication with the men confined in the main coal seam. This was about half-past twelve at mid-day on Wednesday, and by seven o'clock in the evening there were fifty-seven men and boys brought up alive, but some of them in a very exhausted condition.

The following is a narrative of one of the men, Ralph Marley, who was entombed with eighteen others in the main coal seam. He said there was a set of four of them working together 1200 yards from the shaft driving a heading, a work preparatory to the hewers getting the coal. They always took the precaution to go eighty yards in different directions to see if gas could be found, but so free is the colliery from gas that during the twelve months he had been working in the seam he had never seen gas. Lamps of the most approved pattern are used all over the pit, although no gas is ever seen, and the current in the main drivings is so strong that the men have to keep their eyes partly closed to keep out the dust caused by the rush of air. About twenty minutes past two o'clock they felt a rush of wind, and he said to one of his mates, "There's something up," and his mate thought there was a fall somewhere near the place, but on looking he found nothing. Having been in three colliery explosions before, Marley told his mates that the pit had fired, and on going towards the shaft about a quarter of a mile from it they found a deputy overman named Wardle lying insensible, with his face covered with blood, and here they met the after-damp. Up to this time they had fresh air, but on proceeding along towards the shaft they saw the effects of the explosion—doors blown down and debris about the main ways. When they reached the shaft there were nineteen of them, with eight or nine lamps among them, the rest having had theirs blown out at the time of the explosion. On looking up the shaft they saw the cage above them damaged and off the runners, and looking down the shaft there was a lot of timber lying higgledy-piggledy. They were getting air into their seam, but the return air was so foul that it was like being in a very smoky room. They had water and tea with them, and they partook of this refreshment, but they had misgivings as to whether they were out of danger. They dreaded a second explosion, and travelled about in different directions in couples to see whether there were any signs of fire, but, not finding any, they sat down, now and again shouting up the shaft, however, without getting any response. About five o'clock in the morning they thought they heard voices from above, and this cheered them, but it was not till one o'clock in the afternoon that they were assured of being rescued. Marley, who is an elderly man, was then slung into a loop, and, with two others, was brought to the surface, and walked home, where he has been visited by many relatives.

Soon after the deliverance of these nineteen men from the Main Seam, about forty more were brought safely up from the Harvey Seam, where they had suffered only from dust and smoke. The upcast or High Pit shaft had been cleared of the broken wire-ropes, eight in number, which were fixed in it from top to bottom for "guides" to the descending or ascending "cage," and of the remains of the shattered "cage" itself, which had stuck in the shaft not far from the bottom. A "kibble" or iron tub was then let down, first to the level of one seam, next to that of the other seams below, and the men above shouted after it, for an hour or two, hoping that those who might be near the lower entrances to the shaft would hear them and get into this vehicle for their ascent. These men, however, from the Harvey Seam had collected in the engine-house, and did not hear the summons from above. It was between six and seven in the evening when Mr. Stratton, with a party of eight or ten miners, carrying two patent fire-annihilators, again descended through the smoke in the High Pit shaft to rescue the men in the Harvey Seams. The scene as they went down, followed by several other parties equipped in the same manner, is represented in our front-page Engraving. The fire-annihilators, which are iron cylinders with conical tops, about four feet high, containing a chemical apparatus for generating a gas that will extinguish fire, will be recognised in several of our Illustrations. Among those who were raised



MR. STRATTON, THE MANAGER OF SEAHAM COLLIERY, WHO FIRST DESCENDED AFTER THE EXPLOSION.

alive from the Harvey Seam was one, William Laverick, terribly burnt in the head and face, and another severely bruised; the rest were not much hurt.

There are sixty-seven persons who have escaped the disaster; and thirty-three dead bodies were got up from the lower seams or levels; but the number of dead is estimated at 161. There is a record of 246 having gone down to work. Some of these had taken the "night shift" of work out of their proper turn, in order to make a holiday of the next day, that they might attend a public flower show to be held at Seaham, where Lord Londonderry was to distribute the prizes. The cultivation of gardens and flowers is a favourite pastime with the colliers of that neighbourhood, and is wisely and kindly encouraged by their social superiors. Some men of this class also formed part of the Seaham Harbour Volunteer Artillery Corps, which greatly distinguished itself in the recent competition of the National Artillery Association at Shoeburyness. Ten members of that corps were among the colliers who were below at the time of this disaster; and one of them, Corporal Hindson, had won the Queen's Prize this year at Shoeburyness, and the gold cup was to have been presented to him by Lord Londonderry at the Seaham Flower Show that very same day. His corpse was found in burnt fragments, the head and both legs torn off the body and thrown several yards apart. He has left a wife, a son, and four daughters, one of

whom was to have been married this week to a young man who has also lost his life in the pit.

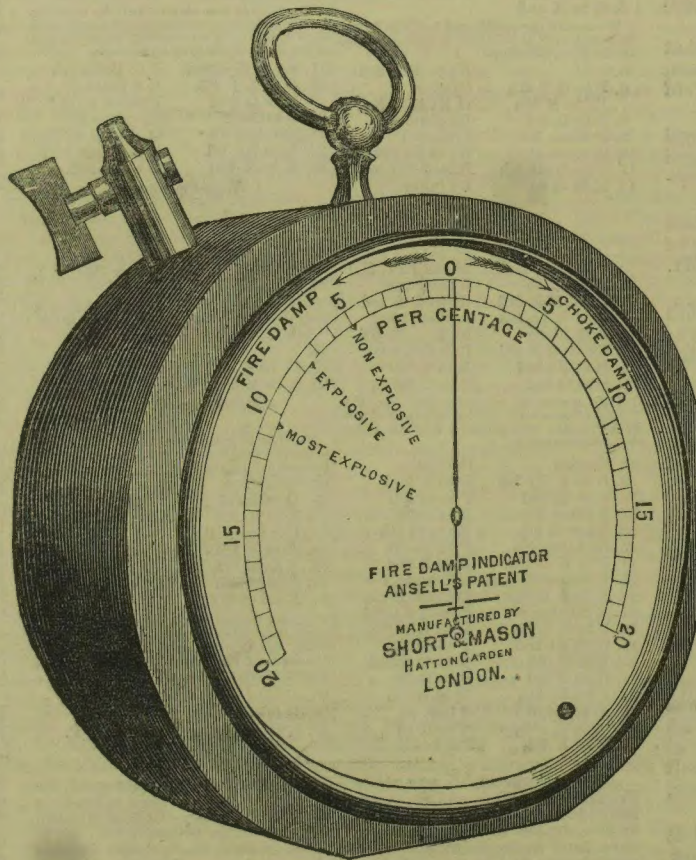
The utmost sympathy and kindness, with prompt and energetic labours to assist the manager and other officers of the colliery in the work of exploration and rescue, were freely manifested by nearly all persons in the district who are connected with colliery operations. The Marquis of Londonderry, who was deeply affected, and to whom the Queen has telegraphed a message of her compassion for the sufferers, came again and again to the pit's mouth, in consultation with the managers, and with Mr. Bell, the Government Inspector of Collieries. The Secretary of State for the Home Department, Sir William Vernon Harcourt, who was staying at Studley Royal, near Ripon, came to Seaham on purpose to ascertain for himself the circumstances of this great disaster. It will probably be many days yet before all the dead bodies can be recovered from the Hutton and Maudlin Seams, where none can possibly have survived the explosion. No fault has been found with the ordinary arrangements and condition of the Seaham Colliery. It is satisfactory to learn that nearly all the men killed were insured in the Northumberland and Durham Miners' Association, which grants five shillings a week to each widow and two shillings a week for each child.

Our Illustrations comprise a general view of Seaham, with the harbour; views of the three shafts at Seaham Colliery; the scene at bringing up the first dead body; the operation of putting out the fire in No. 3 Pit; groups of miners and wives standing outside the dead-house, waiting to identify the bodies; and some of the women and old men going to the neighbouring chapel at night to attend a special religious service held upon this occasion. The Rev. W. A. Scott, Vicar of the parish, performed the funeral ceremony in the churchyard for the dead who were interred on Sunday.

ANSELL'S FIRE-DAMP INDICATOR.

The deplorable loss of life in the Seaham Colliery will naturally lead the public to inquire if science can do nothing to prevent the periodical recurrence of so terrible a destruction of human life. The answer to an inquiry of the kind is ready to hand and perfectly conclusive, for science has already placed at the disposal of miners the most efficient means of detecting accumulations of fire-damp in coal-mines. It is upon the Legislature the responsibility now devolves to make it compulsory upon mine-owners and officials in charge of mines to employ the means science has placed at their disposal—otherwise "overlookers or mine-viewers" will, as heretofore, go on trusting to blind chance in all they do. Those who have to do with mines are by nature "fatalists." They have at all events not to bear the brunt of a neglect of proper precautions to make the life of the miner safer, and will therefore continue to trust to chance and believe they have faithfully performed their duty when they have hoisted the "danger signal."

That this must be so is apparent, for a dogged indifference to the use of scientific instruments is notorious, and fully explains why one of so much value as that of Ansell's Fire-damp Indicator is not in use. The construction of the instrument is based on a well-known scientific principle—that of the diffusion of gases. All mere mechanical contrivances for shutting off the fire-damp from the miners' Davy Lamp have, in practice, proved an utter failure. So with regard to the accumulation of gas in confined spaces, this cannot be prevented; and when from neglect of some precaution the miner suddenly comes across "a blower" the flame of the lamp immediately increases in size, the sharp current draws it through the wire-gauze and renders it red-hot. In an instant, and before the man has time to think, an explosion takes place. Science has thus been driven to look in another direction for the means of lessening the danger of fire-damp accumulations, and it occurred to Mr. George F. Ansell that he might utilise the law of diffusion, and, by some simple means, measure the quantity of gas present in any and every part of the workings. The idea was of great value, and soon took a practical form. The instrument, as will be seen on reference to our Engraving, closely resembles the aneroid barometer. The rigid metal back of the aneroid being removed, is replaced by a porous tile, and, with other important changes made in its mechanism, becomes a *diffusionometer*. When the instrument is brought into an atmosphere charged with fire-damp, the gaseous atoms diffuse into the closed chamber with greater rapidity than the atmospheric air passes out. The increased volume of gas causes pressure to be made upon a spring in communication with the index-hand, and it immediately moves over the graduated dial-face. The face is arbitrarily divided into degrees—1 per cent of carburetted hydrogen marks 1 degree, $7\frac{1}{2}$ an explosive mixture, and $10\frac{1}{2}$ a most explosive mixture. The degrees are bold, and purposely kept wide apart, to enable the viewer to read them off by the aid of a feeble light. In the event of the instrument being brought into an atmosphere of heavy gas, choke-damp, or carbonic acid gas, the action of the index-hand is reversed, and it travels in the opposite direction. To restore the equilibrium of the instrument, it is only necessary to turn the small stop-cock at the upper part of the instrument, which lets in atmospheric air, and the index-hand returns to zero. The Indicator is so little liable to be deranged and is so simple of application that it can be intrusted to anyone quite unacquainted with the use of a scientific instrument. It is well adapted for use in other subterranean works, as the sinking of wells and the laying of gas-pipes in the streets. In ships, where the accumulation of gases in the hold is a frequent source of danger, and the detection of gas leakages in the house. It is of this instrument Dr. Jabez Hogg writes, "it is impossible to conceive a more refined application of science than Ansell's fire-damp indicator, or one that will be found of greater practical utility in the saving of human life."



ANSELL'S FIRE-DAMP INDICATOR
(REPRESENTING THE FULL SIZE OF THE INSTRUMENT).